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A Weekly Journal of the Chemical and Drug Trades  
and of  
British Pharmacists throughout the Empire.  
ESTABLISHED 1859.

The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is the leading journal addressing the chemical and drug trades of the British Empire. It is adopted as an official journal by nineteen Chemists' Societies in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and the West Indies, and its paid-in-advance circulation in Great Britain and all Countries having business relations with the British Empire is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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#### CONTENTS: Vol. LXXVII., No. 22 (Series No. 1609).

[The folios in this List and in the Summary are those at the top of the pages, but references in the Text are to the Index folios at the bottom of the pages.]

	PAGE		PAGE
American Notes ... <i>Col. Supp.</i>		French News .....	49
Association President ...	64	Gazette .....	54
Australasian News .....	50	General Medical Council	66
Bankruptcy Reports .....	53	German Letter .....	51
Births .....	55	Information Department	58
Books, New .....	67	Irish News .....	48
B.P. Oils and Fats .....	63	Legal Reports .....	52
Business Changes .....	73	Marriages .....	55
Chemical Society .....	67	Medical Gleanings .....	73
Chemists' Windows .....	72	Medical Practice (Govern-	
Coming Events ... <i>Col. Supp.</i>		ment Report) .....	64
Company News .....	54	New Companies .....	54
Corner for Students .....	44	Observations and Reflec-	
Correspondence:		tions .....	59
Letters .....	78	Optical Observations .....	57
Dispensing Notes .....	79	Personalities .....	55
Legal Queries .....	79	Poisonings .....	67
Miscellaneous Inquiries	80	Prescription Problem ...	72
Deaths .....	55	Retrospect .....	80
Deed of Arrangement ...	53	Reviews .....	63
Editorial Articles:		Scientific Progress .....	58
Counter-prescribing ...	60	Scots News .....	49
Benzoin .....	61	South African News .....	51
Sale of Spirits .....	62	Trade Notes .....	56
Notes .....	62	Trade Report .....	74
English and Welsh News	46	Westminster Wisdom .....	57
Festivities .....	71	Winter Session .....	68

#### BEFORE CHRISTMAS

There is one thing that all business-houses connected with the drug and chemical trades should do—viz., give instructions in regard to their insets for the Winter Issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. The Publisher will be pleased to give details and advice about the preparation of price-lists, circulars, or specially printed announcements. Address the Publisher, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

#### "THE C. & D. DIARY, 1911."

THE *Chemists' and Druggists' Diary* for 1911 has been in the binders' hands for a fortnight, and the first instalment of their output has been despatched by this week's overland mail to subscribers in Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji. They should be delivered in every case before New Year's Day. A second consignment of copies has been forwarded to our Melbourne office per s.s. *Osterley*, which is due at the port of Melbourne on January 1. These are for distribution to new subscribers commencing from December 1, 1910. We would be glad if subscribers in the Commonwealth and New Zealand would kindly take note of the Competition Coupon-card which is enclosed in the *Diary*, fill in the blanks with their answers, and return it to us by an early mail.

## Summary of this Issue.

The more notable items only are dealt with.

#### Articles and Communications.

Dr. Willcox's method of administering oxygen and alcohol vapour is illustrated on p. 73.

The progress in medical prevention and treatment of syphilis is remarkable. We give notes on the subject on p. 75.

Mr. Harold Wyatt, in a communication to the Liverpool Chemists' Association, discussed a considerable number of dispensing difficulties in a practical manner (p. 70).

Further correspondence in regard to the Minor examination is printed on p. 78. We report from several chemists' associations discussions on the curriculum (see p. 68 *et seq.*).

With reference to the inquiries by coroners in which chemists were witnesses, we recall remarks by the late Baron Pollock on counter-prescribing, and suggest that one side of this question should be more thought of by coroners and doctors (p. 60).

Dr. Leonard Dobbin, director of our "Corner for Students," in his report on last month's analysis, gives useful hints to young analysts on the examination of a mixture of potassium arsenate, chromate, and sulphate. The prizes go to London Students (p. 44).

A Blue Book has been published this week on the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons. It is based on replies to Government inquiries addressed to medical officers of health throughout the Kingdom. Chemists, herbalists, and proprietary medicines are specially condemned. We abstract the report on p. 64.

The President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain informs us that when expressing his belief that closer *rapprochement* might take place between the General Medical Council and the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society as to the revision of the British Pharmacopœia, he did not suggest that the Society should share in the profits (p. 78).

#### The Week's News.

Retailers who get P.A.T.A. goods in payment of window-displays must not sell them below fixed prices. See report of meeting on p. 46.

The Representative Board of the British Dental Association has considered the reference of the draft Dentists Act Amendment Bill, and has decided to take a referendum of the members of the Association in regard to the Bill (p. 46).

The Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has failed to establish its case in an action against a Winchester licensed poison-vendor for not labelling "XL-All" insecticide. Judge Gye strongly animadverted on the Society's conduct (pp. 52 and 62).

The Commissioners of Customs and Excise intimated that when the minimum quantity of spirits (one quart bottle) or wines (one pint bottle) is sold by retail, the vendor may supply at the same time any less quantity of other spirits or wines (p. 61).

The General Medical Council met in London on Tuesday, and is proceeding with routine business. During the session it is expected that the blue-book regarding quackery will be considered, and steps taken to follow it up, with suggestions for legislation (p. 66).

The Court of Appeal has laid down a ruling respecting a "Dolly" blue passing-off action. Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady had granted an interim injunction, but this the Court has reversed, and incidentally has stated that an article which has been the subject of Letters Patent cannot, after the patent expires, be the subject of a passing-off action (p. 52).

#### Trade and Market Matters.

A distinct revival in business has taken place in the Union of South Africa. The grand total of imports of merchandise for the nine months of this year reaching 30,745,000l., or 8,255,000l. more. To this increase the drug, chemical, and allied trades contributed over 390,000l. (p. 51).

Business is satisfactory, especially as regards the demand for heavy chemicals for delivery; but that in drugs and medicinal chemicals is under the influence of the wane of the year. The continued strength of all tartar-products is a dominant feature, a further advance being recorded in soda tartarata, pulv. seidlitz, and foreign tartaric acid. Clove oil, mace, ergot, glycerin, and copper sulphate are more or less dearer, while easier rates apply to ammonia sulphate, cod-liver oil, palmarosa and lime oils, shellac, and quicksilver (seconds) (p. 74).



## Corner for Students.

Conducted by Leonard Dobbin, Ph.D

All communications for this section should be addressed thus "Corner for Students, 'The Chemist and Druggist,' 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C."

### QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS.

A MIXTURE of not more than three salts will form the subject of the next exercise in qualitative analysis. The mixture will comprise acids and inorganic bases occurring in the British Pharmacopœia, and is to be submitted to a thorough systematic examination, all its constituents are to be detected, and proof is to be given that the substances detected are the only constituents of the mixture.

Students' applications for portions of the mixture of salts (accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope, not a stamp merely) will be received up to Tuesday, November 29, and the samples will be posted on the following day.

Students' reports will be received up to Saturday, December 10. Each report should contain a concise account of the work done, and should include a list of the constituents detected. In this list any substance regarded as an accidental impurity should be distinguished from the essential constituents of the salts composing the mixture.

The analysis announced above forms the second exercise in

### THE ANALYTICAL TOURNAMENT

for the current winter session. The usual monthly first and second prizes in this series of analyses will be awarded only to apprentices or assistants who are preparing for the Qualifying examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain or of Ireland, which fact *must be attested on their reports*. Students who adopt a *nom de plume* must adhere to it throughout the tournament.

### Report on November Analytical Exercise.

The powder distributed to students on October 26 contained 5 parts by weight of potassium sulphate, 4 parts of potassium chromate, and 1 part of potassium di-hydrogen arsenate. The calculated composition of such a mixture is—

K	...	...	...	...	40.7
SO <sub>4</sub>	...	...	...	...	27.6
CrO <sub>3</sub>	...	...	...	...	23.9
AsO <sub>3</sub>	...	...	...	...	7.7
H	...	...	...	...	0.1
					100.0

The powder also contained a trace of a chloride, as impurity.

Samples of the powder were distributed to 73 students, and 41 reports were submitted for examination. All of our correspondents recognised the presence of potassium. The failures in the detection of the acid radicals were: Sulphuric, 4; chromic, 1; arsenic, 33. Of the eight students who detected the presence of arsenium, three failed to recognise that it was present as an arsenate.

This exercise has proved a somewhat difficult one to most of those who sent in reports, the elusive arsenate having remained, as a rule, both undetected and unsuspected. It was intended that the detection of the arsenate should be the only real difficulty involved, and the composition of the powder was specially arranged to ensure that some of the reactions of the arsenate should be more or less completely obscured by those of the chromate.

The treatment of the original aqueous solution with dilute hydrochloric acid did not produce any visible effect beyond changing the colour of the solution from yellow to orange, and when hydrogen sulphide was added, the further change to green, with separation of sulphur, was

usually ascribed to the oxidising action of the chromate alone. Careful examination for the possible presence of an arsenate, by means of the prolonged reducing effect of hydrogen sulphide on a hot hydrochloric-acid solution, was made only by a very few students, and of those who obtained a mixed precipitate of arsenious sulphide and sulphur at this stage only five proved the presence in it of the former.

Again, when silver nitrate was added to the aqueous solution of the powder in testing for acid radicals, the large quantity of red silver chromate which was precipitated hid the presence of the much less abundant brown silver arsenate. Further, the presence of the chromate in the powder rendered it almost impossible to obtain an arsenium film in applying the film-tests.

On the other hand, the addition of magnesia mixture to the original aqueous solution produced an almost immediate crystalline precipitate, which strongly indicated the presence of an arsenate or a phosphate, and should have suggested the most diligent search for both of these. Ammonium molybdate, too, gave the yellow precipitate characteristic of an arsenate or a phosphate; but for some reason many of our correspondents failed to obtain any precipitate on applying this test. It is probable that these failures were mostly due to the reagent having been used too sparingly. Only a very small quantity of the solution under examination should be employed, and ten to twenty times its volume of a suitably sensitive solution of ammonium molybdate should be added. On warming gently, or on boiling, if necessary, the yellow precipitate should be produced rapidly and conspicuously, as it was in the present case when the above precaution was observed.

Statements which occur in various reports make it apparent that a good deal of confusion exists in the minds of many students regarding the chemical nature and the reactions of the acid radical of the chromates on the one hand and those of chromium as the metallic radical of the chromic salts on the other, tests having often been applied to unreduced solutions containing the original chromate which were properly applicable only to solutions of chromic salts, while tests for chromates were applied to solutions which, from the treatment they had received, could only contain chromium as chromic salt. Much misunderstanding also exists as to the solubility of chromic hydroxide in a solution of sodium hydroxide and regarding the conditions under which the complete reprecipitation of the chromium from the resulting alkaline solution can be effected. This misunderstanding is responsible for the supposed detection of aluminium by a large number of students. Many of our correspondents could considerably extend their knowledge of the chemistry of chromium by devoting a short time to the study of the reactions of chromates and chromic salts, and of the chemical conditions under which these compounds can be mutually transformed into each other. The application of the routine method of separation of chromium and aluminium to a precipitate known to consist of chromic hydroxide alone, and also to one containing both chromic and aluminium hydroxides, should also be profitable.

Several students reported the non-formation of any precipitate when ferric chloride was added to the aqueous solution of the powder. This did not agree with our experience, since when a nearly neutral solution of ferric chloride was employed, a bulky precipitate was immediately formed, of which the greater part was readily dissolved by acetic acid, while a small portion (which consisted of ferric arsenate) remained undissolved.

We have commented repeatedly in this column on the fallacy of the widespread belief among students that the



non-formation of a sublimate on heating a substance in a narrow tube proves the absence of ammonium salts and of arsenium compounds. It is only a comparatively small number of ammonium salts which yield sublimes in this way, while most of the commoner arsenites and arsenates, in absence of reducing-agents, do not yield sublimes.

Some students boiled the original powder with sodium carbonate and filtered, in order to obtain a solution for examination for acid radicals. In view of the composition of the powder and of its solubility in water, the boiling with sodium carbonate was not necessary, and as no precipitate resulted from that operation, filtration was, in any case, superfluous. Students might well consider the purpose of the operations they carry out, and omit those steps which are plainly not required.

#### THE ANALYTICAL TOURNAMENT.

An excellent start has been made in the tournament competition, and there are many promising competitors. We specially urge all who have begun to persevere with the successive exercises whether they have attained high marks or not in this month's competition. There is time, and there may be opportunity in connection with subsequent exercises, to retrieve, so far, any loss of marks that has occurred as yet.

#### PRIZES.

The First Prize for the best analysis has been awarded to  
FREDK. A. PICKWORTH, c/o F. T. Shepley, 169 Brockley Road, S.E.

The Second Prize has been awarded to

JAMES SMALL, 8 Firsby Road, Stamford Hill, N.

*First Prize.*—Any scientific book that is published at a price not greatly exceeding half-a-guinea may be taken as a first prize.

*Second Prize.*—Any scientific book which is sold for about five shillings may be taken as a second prize.

The students to whom prizes are awarded are requested to write at once to the Publisher naming the book or books they select.

#### MARKS AWARDED FOR ANALYSES.

##### 1. Correspondents who are unqualified:

F. A. Pickworth (1st prize)	95	Maranta	...	...	81
J. Small (2nd prize)	93	Perseverando Vincere	...	...	81
Archie	92	Pilocarpine	...	...	81
Nemo	91	Rhein	...	...	81
Bradford	88	Cutch	...	...	80
Tête Gras	88	Phoca	...	...	80
Mehr Licht	87	Prosum	...	...	80
Rex (Bradford)	87	Rego	...	...	80
C. G. O.	86	Ferrum	...	...	79
Rare Chemical	85	Kiltie	...	...	78
Conatus Primus	84	Vol	...	...	77
Oxygen	83	Birch Vale	...	...	74
Polonium	83	Lambo	...	...	73
Sunshine	82	Rex (Ilford)	...	...	71
Tents	82	Jewel	...	...	62
Despair	81	Gartmore	...	...	61
L'Élève	81	W. J. W.	...	...	55

##### 2. Correspondents who are qualified, or who have not stated that they are unqualified:

A. R.	91	Naoto	...	...	83
Beaker	76	Rela	...	...	83
C. H. T.	84	Spirogyra	...	...	82
Hyoscine	91				

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. SMALL and BRADFORD.—The solution of ferric chloride which you employed in testing for acid radicals must have contained too much free hydrochloric acid. Using a nearly neutral solution of ferric chloride, we obtained an abundant precipitate with the aqueous solution of the powder.

ARCHIE.—The precipitate produced on adding ferric chloride to the aqueous solution of the powder was not entirely due to the arsenate present, as the chromate also gave a precipitate. The latter precipitate dissolved on the addition of acetic acid, leaving ferric arsenate undissolved.

NEMO.—Note that magnesia mixture does not give a crystalline precipitate with the solution obtained by dissolving arsenious sulphide in ammonium carbonate, since this solution

does not contain an arsenate. You are not expected to attempt to write equations representing the changes which occur in the various analytical operations.

TÊTE GRAS.—You incorrectly describe the production of the odour of acetic acid on treating the powder with sulphuric acid and alcohol as "showing presence of oxidising-agent reducing the alcohol." Instead of "reducing" you should have written "oxidising."

MEHR LICHT.—Note that mere heating of potassium arsenate with sodium carbonate does not yield arsenium: a reducing-agent, such as charcoal, is also required. This explains why you did not obtain an arsenium mirror.

REX (Bradford) and DESPAIR.—We strongly recommend you to spend a quarter of an hour in carrying out comparative tests for acetate, by means of the ethyl-acetate reaction, in mixtures which do and in others which do not contain an acetate, taking care to employ not more than a single drop of alcohol in each test. S.V.R. must be employed, and not S.V.M., as the odour of the latter masks the odour of ethyl acetate.

C. G. O.—When hydrochloric acid was added to the yellow aqueous solution of the powder a striking change of colour took place, the mixture becoming orange: you report "No result," however.

RARE CHEMICAL.—You report chromium as a metallic radical and also as part of an acid radical, apparently, however, without having made any effort to ascertain whether the original mixture contained chromium in both forms.

CONATUS PRIMUS.—As a first attempt your report is distinctly good, but you have incorrectly described the behaviour of the original aqueous solution on adding hydrochloric acid and hydrogen sulphide, and then on adding ammonium chloride, ammonia, and ammonium hydrosulphide, as being similar in both cases. This result could not be obtained, no matter whether you employed the same portion of the solution for applying both tests or applied each test to a separate portion.

OXYGEN.—You should have taken very careful steps to confirm the (*a priori* unlikely) presence of lead in a powder containing a chromate and completely soluble in water. That portion of the precipitate produced by adding barium chloride to the prepared solution for acid radicals, which dissolved in hydrochloric acid, consisted mainly of barium chromate, not of barium sulphite.

OLONIUM.—See the reply to "Mehr Licht."

TENTS.—Having found that a phosphate or an arsenate was present, it is unfortunate that you concluded that the former was present and the latter absent. Note that potassium or sodium arsenate does not yield any sublimate when heated alone.

CUTCH.—When the powder was heated with concentrated sulphuric acid, oxygen was given off, not sulphur dioxide, and this proved the presence of an oxidising-agent, not that of a reducing-agent. Read the second sentence of the reply to "Tents."

PHOCA.—We have not been able to comprehend your report of the treatment of the iron-group precipitate, as you do not describe any recognised method or a method which could give the results as stated. Your failure to obtain a precipitate on adding magnesia mixture to the original aqueous solution is remarkable.

FERRUM.—After the chromate had been reduced to chromic chloride by the action of hydrogen sulphide and hydrochloric acid, the addition of ammonia in excess should have produced a precipitate of chromic hydroxide. Why it failed to do so in your hands we are unable to say.

VOL.—Note that the precipitate of ammonium magnesium phosphate is crystalline, not flocculent. We failed to obtain any indication of a nitrate on applying the test with ferrous sulphate and sulphuric acid.

BIRCH VALE.—The precipitate which you obtained on boiling the aqueous solution of the powder with calcium chloride probably consisted mainly of calcium sulphate.

LAMBO.—Your conclusions that a sulphite and that a thio-sulphate were present were not supported by satisfactory evidence. Note that the odour of hydrochloric acid is often mistaken for that of sulphur dioxide.

REX (Ilford).—The brick-red precipitate you obtained on adding silver nitrate to a neutral solution of the powder consisted mainly of silver chromate, and only to a small extent of silver arsenate.

JEWEL.—Calcium chloride is not a delicate reagent for detecting the presence of a sulphate. Note that barium chromate is easily dissolved by hydrochloric acid.

GARTMORE.—It appears likely that in adding ammonia to precipitate the iron-group hydroxide you failed to add it until



the mixture was alkaline. The unidentified precipitate formed on adding ammonium hydrosulphide no doubt consisted of chromic hydroxide. You had a somewhat unusual experience in getting the precipitate of barium sulphate to dissolve completely in dilute nitric acid.

**SPIROGYRA.**—It would have been well to carry out a blank test with the sodium peroxide you employed in order to make sure that it did not itself give a reaction resembling that due to aluminium.

**NEMO, FERRUM, and C. H. T.**—It will be a great convenience if you will kindly fill up the printed envelopes in which the powders are sent out, and affix them to your reports.

## English and Welsh News.

When sending Newspapers containing Trade news to the Editor please mark the items.

### Brevities.

The Staffordshire County Council have renewed the poison-licences held by Mr. S. Dennett, Handsworth; Mr. J. F. Jacks, Lichfield; and Messrs. E. Webb & Sons, Wordsley.

The London University College is now advertising in "The Times" (double column) for subscriptions for the new chemical laboratories. Only 9,000*l.* of the 70,000*l.* required has been subscribed, and the appeal must be regarded as a failure—so far.

A motor-car left in the street by a Chatham gentleman, on November 21, was set in motion by a boy of ten tinkering with the starting-mechanism, with the result that the car dashed into a chemist's shop, demolishing the woodwork and glass. The boy ran away.

An outbreak of fire occurred on November 22 at the rear of the pharmacy of Mr. E. R. Pater, Ph.C., 9 Market Square, Retford. The flames, which were caused by an oil-stove, were speedily subdued by the fire-brigade, and but little damage was done.

The Rhyl Urban Council last week granted by a large majority the application from a local chemist to be allowed to exhibit an illuminated sign over his pharmacy advertising a certain food. Objection had been made on the ground that the article in question was not manufactured in the town, which elicited a rejoinder from a councillor that there appeared to be a desire to stifle enterprise.

At the annual social event of the Darwen Tradesmen's Association on November 16, the President, Mr. W. H. Lomax, chemist and druggist, said a thorough readjustment of taxation imposed by the local authorities and the Imperial Exchequer was necessary. The rates pressed very hard upon retailers, and their Association would require to watch developments to see that in any new arrangement the retail traders got relief.

During a discussion on the Shops (No. 2) Bill by the Tunbridge Wells Tradesmen's Association, Mr. A. E. Hobbs, member of the Pharmaceutical Council, said he thought that probably chemists were a class apart in the difficulties that would be experienced under the Bill. He favoured the compulsory closing of shops on half a day a week. Chemists had given anxious consideration to the question of rendering proper service to the public, and at the same time gaining the rest and relaxation necessary for themselves. The great difficulty was with regard to assistants' hours, and they would welcome some relaxation of the stringent regulations in order to enable the assistants to share with the employers the responsibility of attending to urgent calls when the shop was closed.

### The British Pharmaceutical Conference.

"The Times" announced last week that the date of the Conference has been fixed for July 24, 1911, and the "Portsmouth Evening News" of November 18 contained an appreciative article on the aims and objects of the Conference. The latter was contributed by Mr. Thomas Postlethwaite, Ph.C., Southsea, and contains the following reference:

"Although in the matter of the number of participants the British Pharmaceutical Conference may appear to the Ports-

mouth public as a small affair, it may be taken as significant of the importance of the gathering that the Mayor took the first opportunity of bringing it to the notice of his colleagues; while the important drug-journal, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, in offering felicitations to our worthy townsman on his election to the mayoral chair, said: 'Alderman Foster's pharmaceutical training will stand him in good stead when the Conference visits Portsmouth next year.'"

### The Dentists Act Amendment Bill.

The annual meeting of the British Dental Association, while approving generally of the Bill drafted by its Representative Board, asked that Board to endeavour to promote its acceptance by the Legislature. The Journal of the Association of November 15 reports a meeting of the Board of October 29, when the matter was fully discussed, the debate showing quite a variety of opinion as to the wisdom and otherwise of the Bill. It was agreed that the resolution of the annual meeting be submitted to a referendum of the Association, and that this referendum be taken by postal ballot not earlier than three months from the date of the motion, the object of this being that the branches of the Association may in the meantime discuss the matter. It was also agreed

"That a small committee, consisting of an equal number of members *pro et contra*, together with the members of the Executive Committee, be appointed for the purpose of drawing up the terms of the observations which shall accompany the resolution referred."

The names of the members were: Messrs. W. Guy, L. Matheson, and Walter Harrison (*pro*), and Messrs. G. M. P. Murray, K. E. O'Duffy, and J. H. Badcock (*contra*), and the Executive Committee, consisting of the President of the Association, the Chairman of the Board, the Hon. Secretary, and the Hon. Treasurer. On being put the resolution was carried and the names were adopted. We gather that the probable result of this referendum and committee will be a much modified measure, as a chastened feeling has crept over the Association.

### Protecting Goods for Window-displays.

A meeting was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on November 17, of the Council of the Proprietary Articles Trade Association and proprietors who are members of the Association to discuss certain abuses alleged to exist in connection with window-shows of P.A.T.A. articles. Mr. W. R. Barnes (President of the Association) was in the chair. It was represented by a number of wholesalers and manufacturers that certain retailers were in the habit of ordering quantities of goods and obtaining with them either direct payment or extra goods or extra discount for window-shows, well knowing that they could not sell in their own shops the quantity of goods so purchased. It was stated that some of these traders were in the habit of transferring the surplus portion of such orders either to other retailers or to their wholesale houses, and the complaint was made by both wholesalers and retailers that their interests were thereby prejudiced, and that it was their wish that the practice should be stopped. The following resolutions were passed with hardly any dissentients:

That no member of the Manufacturers' Section of the P.A.T.A. be permitted to sell goods enjoying the protection of the Association to retailers at prices other than those definitely quoted on the P.A.T.A. list or accepted by the P.A.T.A. Council, whether for window show or any other consideration, without first obtaining a signed agreement from the purchaser that he will not in any way divide such goods with, or sell them to, any person whomsoever excepting at the prices quoted in the P.A.T.A. list.

That the subscription of any manufacturer not agreeing to this regulation be not accepted next year, and his goods not quoted in the next issue of the P.A.T.A. Year-book.

That any retailer breaking such agreement be forthwith placed upon the "barred" list of the P.A.T.A.

That special notice be drawn to this regulation in the earliest possible issue of the "Anti-Cutting Record," and also prominently in the 1911 Year-book.

### Who were "the Firm"?

The City (London) Board of Guardians were at their meeting last week asked by a well-known firm of manufacturing-chemists if the Board would disinfect the



uniforms of lads leaving their (the firm's) employment. The firm explained that the clothing, which is used by boys engaged in propelling tricycle parcel-carriers about the City, is frequently in a dirty and objectionable condition when the lads deliver it up on leaving; hence the firm's desire to have it fumigated. The Board declined to undertake the work.

#### Postal Reforms.

The Postmaster-General (Mr. Herbert Samuel, M.P.), speaking in the House of Commons on November 21, announced a number of important postal reforms which will shortly come into force—probably at the time of the Coronation. It is proposed to sell the thin halfpenny post-cards and penny letter-cards at one halfpenny and a penny each without any additional charge for the cards themselves as at present. Stamped envelopes and wrappers would also be sold at prices lower than at present, and books of stamps costing 2s. are to contain full value. Directions had been given that printed matter on thin paper should no longer be forbidden to be affixed to inland postcards; while watches, not of gold or silver, may be sent through the post without a registration-fee being compulsory. The Postmaster-General will consider the early establishment of certificates of posting of letters at a fee of  $\frac{1}{2}d.$  each, if he receives sufficient assurance that such will be of value to the trading community. The telephone-fees between England and France are to be largely reduced (*e.g.*, London to Paris from 8s. to 4s.), and arrangements are under consideration for facilitating the general use of telephone numbers as telegraphic addresses.

#### Mr. Glyn-Jones's Parliamentary Candidature.

Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, barrister-at-law and chemist and druggist, was on November 19 formally adopted as candidate for the representation of Stepney in the House of Commons. In view of the approach of a General Election a Liberal meeting was held at the Paragon Theatre, Mile End Road, London, E., on November 21, on behalf of the candidature of three gentlemen, and Mr. D. Lloyd-George, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, was the chief speaker. Mr. Glyn-Jones seconded the vote of thanks to the Chancellor, who, in reply, said: "What am I to say about my fellow-countryman, Mr. Glyn-Jones? Have any of you got a Welsh terrier? (Laughter.) Jolly good little dogs, I can tell you—very plucky; they never give in, and when we go fox-hunting among our hills we always feel safe if we have got a little black Welsh terrier with us. We generally bring a fox home—perhaps piece-meal." The reception which Mr. Glyn-Jones received was second only to that given to the Chancellor.

#### Analysts' Reports.

The quarterly report of the Monmouthshire analyst shows that included in the 164 samples examined were two each of flowers of sulphur and cream of tartar, and one each of lime-juice cordial, eucalyptus oil, castor oil, compound liquorice-powder, and tincture of myrrh. All the drug-samples proved to be genuine.

Mr. J. F. Liverseege, F.I.C., Ph.C., the Birmingham city analyst, states in his quarterly report that twenty-two of thirty samples of Seidlitz powders were sufficiently near to the requirements of the British Pharmacopœia to be passed as genuine. The report continues:

The powders in the blue papers were on the whole satisfactorily weighed, forty of the forty-three powders being within 5 per cent. of the proper quantity. The powders in the white papers were not so correctly weighed, nine of the forty-three samples differing more than 10 per cent. from the proper quantity of tartaric acid.

Two samples from one maker were badly weighed, the four blue papers containing 159, 175, 177, and 177 grains respectively, instead of 160 grains, the proper quantity. Four of the white papers contained 38, 46, 47, and 54 grains of tartaric acid respectively, instead of 38 grains. These quantities are generally in excess, indicating carelessness rather than fraud. They were marked "Every powder is weighed to ensure accuracy."

The remaining six samples were deficient in quantity and also in quality. They were obtained from two shops, and from the wholesale dealer who supplied these shops. Prosecutions were instituted, but the cases were not heard, as the vendor absconded.

#### Contracts.

Houghton-le-Spring (Durham) Guardians.—Mr. Frank Jones, chemist and druggist, Houghton-le-Spring, and the Durham Chemist Co., Ltd., for the supply of medicines to the hospital.

India Office, Store Department.—Acid. lactic., alcohol, etc., T. Hodgkinson, Prestons & King; ammonium chloride, Burgoyne, Burdidges & Co.; containers, Parke, Davis & Co.; corks, N. W. Mitchell & Sons; sheet india-rubber, Warne & Co.; iodoformum, etc., G. Atkinson & Co.; lint and cotton-wool, Robinson & Sons, Chesterfield; potassium iodide, Howards & Sons; tablets, Parke, Davis & Co.

#### Wine-licences.

At Malvern the off-licence attached to the business at Malvern Link, carried on by Mr. Maurice J. Boorman, has been transferred to Mr. Chas. Henry Derbyshire, Ph.C.

The medicated-wine licence attached to the business carried on at 195 Blackburn Road, Accrington, by Mr. Walter Furness, pharmacist, has been transferred to Mr. Thomas C. Hall.

#### Window-dressing Competitions.

During the Gravesend window-dressing competition, which was held on November 17 and the two following days, Mr. A. A. Gillitt, Ph.C., of 152 Milton Road, secured a second prize, while the local branch of Boots, Ltd., was awarded a certificate of merit.

There was a chemists' class in the window-dressing competition held in connection with the recent Stourbridge Shopping Week. Mr. W. N. Brazier, Ph.C., of Market Street, secured the first prize, while the second and third prizes went to Mr. G. S. Simpkins and Mr. A. Yeates, both pharmacists in High Street.

#### The Supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin.

The Atcham Rural Council resolved last week that the medical officer should contract with a local chemist to hold a stock of diphtheria antitoxin.

During the discussion by the Barmouth Urban District Council *re* the supply of diphtheria antitoxin, the conversation given below took place between Mr. D. E. James, pharmacist, and Dr. Pughe Jones, who questioned the advisability of stocking antitoxin when it could be obtained fresh from London in a few hours. Mr. James asked Dr. Jones if he disputed the authority of the doctors engaged by the Local Government Board.—Dr. Jones, in answering, said he declined to be dictated to by a chemist. He knew what he was talking about.—Mr. James: You know a good deal too much.—An amendment by Dr. Jones opposing stocking antitoxin was ultimately carried.—Mr. James sarcastically suggested that a report of the Council's action should be sent to the Local Government Board for their edification.—Mr. W. Owen said that Mr. James should do that, as he is clever with his pen.

#### Counter-prescribing.

Dr. George Cohen, who conducted an inquest at Hornsey on November 16, paid a compliment to a local chemist who had given medicine for a child of 5½ years who had died from cardiac failure consequent upon pneumonia. The father of the child had been out of work since March, and the family were living in great poverty, but cleanly and respectably. The mother went to a local chemist, who supplied medicine and told the mother to apply a warm sponge or flannel between the collar-bones. Dr. Cohen pointed out to the jury that this would have been the correct treatment if the woman said the child had a croup cough. The jury returned a verdict of "Death from natural causes."

At the Southwark Coroner's Court on November 18, Dr. F. J. Waldo conducted an inquiry into the death of Rose Hannah Graham, aged five weeks, daughter of an unemployed labourer. The mother deposed to taking the baby to Mr. Tyrer, chemist, in Long Lane, Bermondsey, and to telling him that she thought the child had stomach-ache. The child was not examined, but witness was supplied with some syrup of rhubarb, which appeared to relieve the baby, but next morning witness found the child dead in bed. Dr. Denis McCarthy, Bermondsey, said that death was due to suffocation. Dr. McCarthy added that the syrup of rhubarb given in this instance would do no



harm, but it is more calculated to give stomach-ache than to cure it.—The jury, in finding that the child was accidentally suffocated, added a rider that they did not think that chemists who were not doctors ought to prescribe.

At Scarborough on November 18, an inquest was held regarding the death of Mr. John Barry (80), a retired contractor, who had died suddenly from heart-failure while sitting in a chair in his house. The inquest had been ordered because deceased had obtained some medicine from a chemist, and the Coroner (Mr. George Taylor) said: "It was irregular for a chemist to prescribe, and the chemist had undoubtedly been guilty of irregularity in prescribing. Yet, in the case of adults, who were well able to explain simple ailments, such prescribing was more or less frequently done, in which case the chemist undertook it on his own responsibility." Mr. G. H. Meadley, Ph.C., who supplied the medicine, stated that Mr. Barry came to his shop on Thursday and, stating that he had got a chill, wanted some medicine. He also complained of flatulence. Witness said, "Hadh't you better see a doctor?" and he replied that it was not necessary, as he thought it was just a passing indisposition; but if it did not get better next day he would see a doctor. Witness took deceased's own description of his symptoms, and prescribed a tonic stimulant which he thought would be most beneficial. It was a good tonic for indigestion, flatulence, and cold. The evidence of deceased's daughter showed that he went home, took a dose of the medicine, and collapsed. Dr. J. G. Murray, after examination, said he did not think the medicine would do much good, but certainly it would do no harm. The Coroner, in summing up, said it was only by coincidence that Mr. Barry died almost immediately after taking the first dose of the medicine, and the doctor's statement fully exonerated the chemist from blame. The jury returned a verdict of "Death from heart-failure."

#### Steedman's Powders.

At the Hackney Coroner's Court on November 23, Dr. W. Wynn Westcott held an inquest on the body of John Woodhurst, aged three months, who died from exhaustion, due to malnutrition. The mother said, as the child was fretful, she gave him a Steedman's powder. The Coroner: But they are teething-powders, and he had no teeth. The Mother: Oh, they are very good for crying! The Coroner: But apparently you did not know whether it was right or not; you only gave it because somebody else does it? The Mother: They always act. The Coroner: Yes, I quite believe you, but I question very much if it would do an exhausted child much good. Dr. C. E. Evans, 97 Chatsworth Road, said he thought it quite possible the baby's death had been hastened by the powder, as it was already very exhausted, and the powder made him worse. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

#### In the Courts.

At Blackburn on November 16, Harry Singleton (18), a labourer, was sent to prison for a month for stealing a chair and 24½ yards of linoleum (value 2*l.* 10*s.*) from Mr. John W. Openshaw, chemist, of Wiltshire. The articles were taken during prosecutor's removal from his house at 36 Shear Brow.

At the Yorkshire assizes on November 18, a jury found that Frances Bryan, the wife of a Hull dock-labourer, was guilty of a charge of murdering her seven-months-old child by administering rat-poison (*C. & D.*, September 24, p. 473), but that she was insane at the time. Prisoner was ordered to be detained during his Majesty's pleasure.

At Clerkenwell Police Court, on November 22, Alfred Grant (20), baker, and Edward Dodge (20), porter, were committed for trial on a charge of stealing 6*s.* 1*d.* from the automatic cash-box from the public telephone-box in connection with the pharmacy of Mr. J. W. Roberts, chemist and druggist, at 10 Tavistock Place, Bloomsbury, London, W.C.

At Burnley County Court on November 16, Mrs. Annie Tomlinson, wife of a local chemist, sued her brother, Benjamin Harrison, for 45*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*, alleged to be the balance due on a loan of 100*l.* Defendant denied borrowing the money from Mrs. Tomlinson, and also said that plaintiff had agreed to accept 15*l.* in full settlement. Judgment was reserved.

At the Salford Police Court on November 21, Walter Speak, of Radcliffe, described as a chemist's traveller, was remanded for a week on a charge that he did feloniously incite, counsel, procure, and aid one Henry Horbury Preston feloniously and unlawfully to procure a mishap to one Grace Geddes, whose body was recently exhumed at Salford Cemetery. Dr. Henry Horbury Preston was found dead in bed last Saturday.

At the West Riding Assizes at Leeds on November 16, John Lawton Richardson (30), married, described as a chemist, was sentenced by Mr. Justice Hamilton, as an incorrigible person, to five years' penal servitude for obtaining considerable sums of money in Huddersfield and elsewhere by false pretences. It was stated that the prisoner had been employed as a chemist in Manchester, but since 1900 he had not been able to keep his situations. He had previously been in Staffordshire Prison.

#### Football.

Baiss Bros. & Stevenson F.C. v. Myastonians.—Fine weather prevailed when these teams met at Blackheath on November 19. The Myastonians opened the scoring soon after the start from a scramble in front of goal, but shortly after White equalised for Baiss. This was the extent of scoring at half-time. Upon resuming, play was confined to midfield for some time, until Wythe gave the lead to the druggists. Their opponents pressed hard after this, but White, sprinting the length of the field, added a third goal for the Baiss team, who thus ran out winners by three goals to one. Dixon, Relfe, Walker, and White played well for the victors.

London College v. Westminster College.—This match was played at Boston Road on November 19. The London team, winning the toss, had the advantage of the wind during the first half, and, as the result of hard pressing, scored four goals. After changing ends Westminster improved, and showed remarkably good form, but the London defence prevented them netting the ball. The final score thus was London 4 goals, Westminster *nil*.

Square v. The South of England College.—The above teams met on the former's ground at Shepherd's Bush last Saturday, when both sides displayed great keenness, which resulted in a well-contested game. The Souths scored first, and led at the interval by one goal to *nil*. On resuming the Square put on two goals, but the Souths equalised about a quarter of an hour before the game ended in a draw of two goals each. The defence was the best feature of the Souths' team, which kept in check the superior combination among the forward line of the Square men. The game was probably one of the fastest and best contested in the history of the League.

## Irish News.

When sending Newspapers containing Trade news to the Editor please mark the items.

#### Brevities.

The premises in Bride Street, Dublin, lately occupied by Messrs. Hunt & Co., chemists, and previously by Messrs. Leslie & Co., pharmacists, were last week sold by auction.

A very successful dance in aid of the funds of the Mater Hospital, Belfast, was held on November 18, the Hon. Secretary being Mr. M. MacDonald, Ph.C., Donegall Street.

Sir William Baxter, J.P., Coleraine, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, has intimated that he will not contest North Antrim at the ensuing General Election.

Mr. John Smith, ex-President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, has enlarged his pharmacy at 3 Terenure Road, Dublin, and has introduced many improvements which add considerably to the attractiveness of his establishment.

A fire broke out on November 18 in a store at the rear of the establishment of Messrs. Graham & Co., pharmaceutical chemists, Westmoreland Street, Dublin, and the fire brigade was quickly on the scene. On arrival, however, it was found that the outbreak had been completely mastered by the employés of the firm. The damage done was trivial.



**Irish Goods.**

At the meeting of the Athlone Board of Guardians on November 19 a letter was read from Messrs. Fannin & Co., Dublin, stating that they are having the furniture and fittings of the new operating-theatre in the hospital sent direct from Berlin to Athlone. Mr. Smyth said the Guardians understood when they gave them the contract that they were manufacturers. They certainly had no idea of sending the money to Berlin. The Chairman suggested that they should cancel the contract. Dr. McCormack said these were specially made instruments, and the Germans made a speciality of surgical instruments. They did not make the same class of instruments at home. That was why Messrs. Fannin & Co. had to go to Germany for them. Mr. J. Martin said they gave the contract under the impression that they would get goods of Irish manufacture. It was agreed to write to the Local Government Board to inquire if the fittings, etc., could be got elsewhere than in Germany.

**Town Tenants' Case.**

The Executive of the Town Tenants' League, at their meeting in Dublin on November 16, had before them the case of Mr. Cornelius Mannin, pharmaceutical chemist, 2 Great Brunswick Street, a tenant of Trinity College. Mr. Briscoe (Secretary) said Mr. Mannin had occupied the premises for fifty-five years, and, having in that time paid rent that would have bought the place twice over, he was now about to be turned into the street without compensation either for disturbance or for loss of business, which meant for him the loss of all provision for his declining years. Mr. Mannin and other College tenants are being removed to make room for a new police-barracks. He (Mr. Briscoe) had written to the Provost of Trinity College, but so far Dr. Traill had not replied. He also wrote to Mr. Birrell, Chief Secretary, and Mr. Williams, Secretary of the Board of Works. He only received stereotyped acknowledgments from these officials. This, added Mr. Briscoe, is a case that requires to be well looked after—not alone in the interest of Mr. Mannin, but in the interest of the large number of people in Dublin and other towns who are exposed to similar treatment.

**Scots News.**

When sending Newspapers containing Trade news to the Editor please mark the items.

**Edinburgh.**

The severe weather has helped business considerably during the last few days, a hint of which is also forthcoming in the higher death-rate, last week's being calculated as 16.8 per thousand per annum.

Edinburgh water is causing some anxiety. Mr. D. B. Dott is one of the correspondents of "The Scotsman" who deal with the subject. Mr. John Hunter, F.I.C., F.C.S., says the water is unsuitable and unsafe for dietetic purposes.

Most pharmacists have raised the price of glycerin this winter, and some of the shops doing a better-class trade are charging 3d. per oz., or a 2-oz. bottle for 6d. As a rule, however, a 3-oz. bottle is now supplied for 6d., instead of 4-oz., as formerly. The retail prices of glycerin and rose-water, and similar preparations, have also been increased.

**A Pharmacist as Armitstead Lecturer.**

Through the generosity of Lord Armitstead, the inhabitants of Dundee enjoy a course of winter lectures by notable men. Dr. Inglis Clark, of Edinburgh, gave one of the lectures in the Kinnaird Hall on Friday, November 18. His subject was "Touring and Mountaineering in the North-Western District of Scotland." The lecture was illustrated with fine photographs of some remarkable aspects of mountain scenery. The interest and beauty of many of these were enhanced by their having been prepared by the natural-colour process. Among the large audience were many pharmacists and professional gentlemen. Dr. Inglis Clark stated that he began to travel about Scotland when he was twelve years of age, and he has walked, cycled, and motored over all the country. He has

motored 100,000 miles through the Highlands. After spending twenty-six holidays abroad, ranging from America and all the countries of Europe, he came back this summer, and went again to the Highlands, and had to exclaim, "This is the most beautiful country of them all." He first took his audience through the Prince Charlie country, then exhibited the colour photographs, and the third part was a thrilling account of an ascent of Ben Nevis on January 3, 1896. "It was," says a local newspaper, "most enjoyable throughout, and Dr. Clark enjoyed his lecture and his stories as much as anybody."

**Glasgow.**

Mr. John Macintyre, chemist, Hyndland Road, has been very seriously ill, but is now showing signs of improvement.

Boots, Ltd., are now showing a fine selection of perfumery and Christmas presents. Their window displays draw many customers.

Business is becoming more brisk in the city. We are experiencing November fogs, which make way for the sale of inhalers, cough-mixtures, and emulsions.

The Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Association have fixed the retail price of gamgee tissue at 5d., 9d., and 1s. 6d. for  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and 1 lb. respectively.

Messrs. Cockburn & Co., Ltd., are having "Vigoral" demonstrations in some of their branches. A tiny cup of hot "Vigoral" is much appreciated in these cold days by customers, and is usually followed up by a sale.

**French News.**

(From the "C. & D." Correspondent.)

**MME. CURIE'S CANDIDATURE.**—There has been a good deal of discussion in Paris scientific circles during the past fortnight as to the possibility of Mme. Curie being elected a member of the Paris Academy of Sciences for the vacancy now open. The part that she took as her deceased husband's collaborator in the discovery of radium, as well as her acknowledged position as a scientist, would make her election a graceful act. A difficulty is that no lady has so far ever been elected a member of the Academy; but the fact that it is now announced that Mme. Curie will allow her name to be brought forward as a candidate appears to be accepted here as an indication that she has received encouragement to do so from inspired quarters.

**NEW APPRENTICESHIP LAW.**—A notice posted up at the Paris Superior School of Pharmacy informs students that the list of Parisian pharmacists authorised (under the new regulations) to receive "stagiaires" or apprentices, may be consulted at the Secretary's office daily from 2 to 4 p.m. Parisian pharmacists desirous of receiving the said authorisation are requested by another notice on the same building to send in their names to the Director of the School. These notices refer to the new law on pharmaceutical education in France, which stipulates that apprenticeship in view of securing the diploma of pharmacien is now only sanctioned in pharmacies which have been duly approved by the proper academical authorities. The object aimed at is to endeavour to make the apprenticeship a proper and serious part of the curriculum, and not a mere formality.

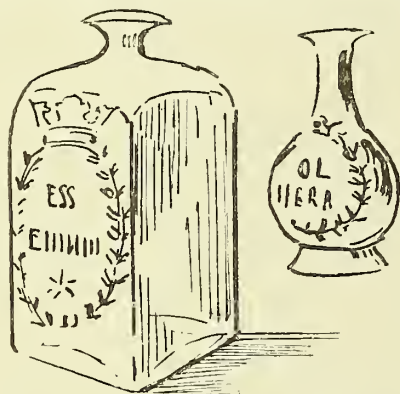
**PHARMACIEN MINISTER OF STATE.**—Much pleasure and satisfaction is expressed in French pharmaceutical circles on the nomination of a pharmacist, M. Jean Morel, as Colonial Secretary in the new Briand Cabinet. The new Minister had a brilliant scholastic career at the Paris School of Pharmacy and served his term as a house pharmacist in a city hospital. He has been a member of Parliament for the Loire Department since 1898, and has given frequent evidence of the interest he still takes in pharmacy. M. Morel's political tendencies are entirely towards Socialism, and he enjoys general esteem among his party, which is the one now in power. Another prominent Minister in the Briand Cabinet is M. L. L. Klotz, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is nearly related to the present owners of the well-known Parfumerie Pinaud, of Paris.—Another political pharmacist on the Socialist side is M. Astier, who was formerly in business

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in the Avenue Kléber, Paris. He has been member of Parliament for the Ardèche a good many years, and has now been nominated as a senator for the same department. The House of Lords' crisis is followed with much interest in Paris, and the general impression is that an Upper Chamber similar to the French Senate is the only way out of the crisis.

**DRUG-POTS AT THE LOUVRE.**—The collection of artistic pharmacy pottery, referred to in the *C. & D.* of November 12, bequeathed to the Union des Arts Décoratifs by the late Mlle. Mimaut, which was placed on public view recently, consists largely of ancient French and Italian drug-pots, as already mentioned. The Italian specimens are usually the oldest, as the artistic drug-pot is only supposed to have been introduced into France in 1610—just 300 years ago. These are ornamented with Scriptural subjects—the Virgin and Child, St. John the Baptist, etc.—or mythological scenes or characters. The French, on the contrary, bear more or less simple geometrical ornaments, but are often very handsome in character. Such a collection naturally presents a wide variety of inscriptions—French, Italian, Latin, and even of orthography (V. Diffensivo and Ung. Diffensivo, for example). The forms are more easy to class. The carafe-shaped water-bottle is



represented by two specimens respectively inscribed A. Arthemisa and A. Verbanæ. The "Chevette" (drug-ewers or spouted vessels suggestive of a deformed teapot) is the most characteristic form of pharmaceutical pottery. One specimen from Treviso is somewhat original in decoration, its "marbled" or variegated surface being relieved by a white band around the centre for the title (Oxym. Colchic.). Another is ornamented with a serpent, this is inscribed ONG. DUDUC.; while on a third the snake is twisted round the vessel and its head forms the spout of the jar, marked OL. CAMÆMEL. The "pots au canon," or albarelli, are another characteristic and frequent class of drug-pots. A handsome set of four, with the original metal lids, respectively bear the inscriptions: Cons. papav. Rub., Pil. Rhabar., Ext. Aloes, and Ext. Polipodi. The larger pots, which usually contained electuaries, are little represented. The most bulky of the jars are two of which the blue and white ornament indicates the Louis XVI. epoch; these are marked G. Oppopanax and P. de Tamarind. An allusion to the pretty flowered set of vases marked Ciclamini, Ung. Rosa. Mes, Pil Styrae and Dosa Soprafina, must close this necessarily brief notice of a fairly extensive and varied collection.

THE imports of medicines and medical appliances into Cyprus during 1909 amounted in value to 3,442l., against 3,350l. in 1908; of perfumery the imports were 914l., as against 927l. in the previous year.

**BARIUM CARBONATE FOR RATS.**—"The Times" recalls that some time ago the United States Agricultural Department issued a bulletin recommending barium carbonate as the cheapest and most effective poison for destroying rats. In the small quantities used in poisoning rats this compound is harmless to larger animals. It has the further merit that the animals usually leave the premises before dying, in search of water. The bait is prepared by mixing one part of the barium carbonate with about 5 parts of oatmeal and adding enough water to form a stiff paste. The chemical can also be used by spreading it on bread-and-butter.

## Australasian News.

### The Commonwealth.

**THE MARKING OF QUININE.**—A "provisional" regulation under the Commerce Act to come into operation, unless previously modified, on January 1, 1911, was circulated about the middle of October as follows:

Quinine is included under the general heading in Regulation 8 (f), "Any drugs of vegetable origin being or containing any poisonous alkaloid, glucoside, or similar potent principle, or any derivative thereof."

The presence of quinine need not, however, be stated in the trade description if the amount per dose does not exceed 1 grain. If the amount of quinine per dose exceeds 1 grain, it will be necessary for such to be stated, but this need not be insisted upon until after January 1 next.

The question is still under consideration of the Customs Department.

### New Zealand.

**CASEIN FOODS.**—A Governor's Order (No. 196), dated August 22, 1910, notifies that "foods composed of milk-albumen, or milk-albumen in combination with casein or with malted or unmalted ground grain," which are capable of use as infants' and invalids' farinaceous foods, may be imported free into the Dominion of New Zealand.

### Victoria.

**RADIUM FOR CANCER.**—In the Legislative Assembly on October 11 Mr. Prendergast directed attention to the desirability of a supply of radium being obtained. It is, he said, a matter that only the Government can properly deal with. Radium is a cure for cancer, and the Government should not wait for such "cadging" as they had seen in New South Wales, but should obtain it at once. Mr. Murray said if it is demonstrated that radium is a cure for cancer the Government would do what was asked. But there must be some proof that the money would not be thrown away. If it was shown that it is desirable to have a supply of radium, even if it would cost thousands of pounds, the Government would take steps to secure it.

MR. H. A. DRIVER HOLLOWAY, joint-proprietor with his brother, Mr. J. S. Holloway, of Holloway's pills, is visiting Australia. His principal object has been to consult the Customs Department concerning the Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act and the literature of the pills and ointment. He has interviewed the Collector of Customs, Mr. Lockyer, also Dr. Norris (Director of Quarantine and Scientific Adviser to the Department) and Mr. Preedy, who has special charge of the administration of the Commerce Act. Mr. Holloway, accompanied by Mrs. Holloway, stayed at the Grand Hotel, Melbourne. He went to New Zealand early in November and may return to the Old Country via Sydney.

**THE DENTISTS BILL,** referred to in the *C. & D.*, November 12, p. 713, was read a second time on October 22. In Committee Mr. Gray objected to chemists being allowed to practise as dentists without any other qualification than that given by Act of Parliament. Mr. Murray, objecting to any provision that allowed partially qualified persons to extract teeth, gave an experience he once had in New Zealand with an unqualified dentist. He stated that chemists already have the power to extract teeth. The Bill provides for recording the names of existing unqualified practitioners; but none others will be allowed to practise in future without examination and registration by the Dental Board. The report stage was concluded, and consideration of the report was to have been brought forward the next day. An attempt was then made to introduce an amendment regulating dentists' fees, but this was lost on a division. Other unsuccessful amendments referred to registration-fees and to penalties to dentists using septic instruments. The clause restricting the practice of dentistry was modified by the addition of the following proviso:

Provided that in any part of Victoria not within a city, town, or borough, the mere extraction of teeth by a registered chemist in the ordinary course of his business shall not be a contravention of the Act.

The Bill was then reported with amendments.

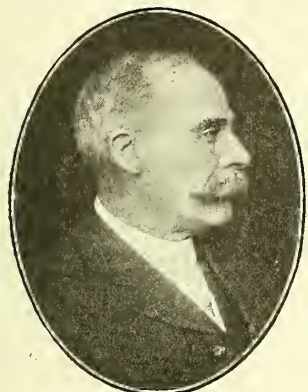


## South African News.

### Cape of Good Hope.

**THE DUTY ON ETHER.**—A South African correspondent writes: "We are under the impression that certain unscrupulous firms have been importing Hoffmann's droppels (spt. æther. sulph.) as ether. The Government have stopped several consignments of ours of late, and have allowed same to go through at the 15 per cent. rate of duty. Doubtless this is the reason for the stringent action which has been taken, as spirits of wine and Hoffmann's droppels are subject to an import-duty of 20s. per proof gal."

**NORTHERN DISTRICT CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.**—At the annual meeting, held in Sneddon's Rooms, Kimberley, on



MR. J. R. BARNSELEY.

October 20, the following members were present: Messrs Cooper (Chairman), Barnsley, Parry, Burton, Robinson, Pimm, Thane, Helmore, Smith, Houghton, Green, Warren, White, Gasson, Bishop, and T. M. Murray (Secretary). The annual report showed that the chief item of discussion during the year had been the Patent Medicine Stamp Act, which had caused "no end of worry" to chemists. It was hoped that steps would be taken in the Union Parliament either to repeal the Act

or to define more clearly what articles are liable to the incidence of the Act. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: *President*, Mr. J. R. Barnsley; *Vice-President*, Mr. J. Parry; *Secretary*, T. Murray (re-elected). The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman.

**COMPULSORY METRIC SYSTEM.**—The "Observer" for October 29 has, under the heading of "Chemical Convulsions," some humorous remarks anent the proposal that chemists be compelled to introduce the metric system of weights and measures. The article states:

One Froembling, the President, brought all the analytical faculties of the Society to bear on the Bill, with the result that they found it was made up of clauses, restrictions, and provisions collected with a lavish paste-pot from the laws of almost every other country. Apparently the genius at Pretoria who drew it up had swept his eye over all Europe: and the Society roughly expressed the view that if they could only have a quiet half-hour with him they could succeed in giving him a pretty lasting headache on the strength of his achievement. . . . It's certain that the Government has run up against a pretty tough proposition in the shape of this Pharmaceutical Society, who have been leading the Cape Government a joyous dance ever since Merriman rushed the Patent Medicines Act through the House and since the Treasury officials decided that every article whose label or advertisement alleged curative qualities fell under the definition of patent medicines—from a hair-restorer that claimed to have produced results on several of the crowned heads of Europe to a brand of soap that Lillie Langtry found comforting to her complexion.

### Rhodesia.

**BULAWAYO CHEMISTS' FOOTBALL CLUB.**—The annual game between this club and the King's F.C. resulted in extra time being necessary before a decision could be arrived at. The King's team eventually ran out winners by a score of four goals to three. Messrs. D. Morris, M. J. Maclaren, and V. M. Everingham played well for the Chemists.

**DRUG-TRADE SPORTS SUCCESSES.**—During the sports meeting of the King's Amateur Athletic Club, held in Bulawayo recently, Mr. R. W. Travis, of Messrs. Smart & Copley, won the 880 yards race by nearly 15 yards. At the same meeting Mr. W. H. Griffiths, also on the same staff, gained first prize in the Combination race, during

which the competitors alternately walked, ran, and cycled a total distance of one mile.

**PERSONAL.**—Mr. A. H. Phelps has arrived at Gatooma, after a six months' holiday in England, looking very fit, having derived much benefit from his stay in the Old Country.—Mr. Harold W. Smart, of Gwelo, left by the mail train on October 30 *en route* for Cape Town, where he was to meet his bride.—Mr. A. W. Ventham, who has been about three years employed as dispenser at the Government Hospital, Hartley, Rhodesia, has accepted an appointment on the Camana Motor Mine, Gatooma, as compound manager.

### The Union.

**NINE MONTHS' DRUG AND CHEMICAL TRADE.**—The imports for the Union of South Africa for the nine months ending September 1910 show a distinct revival, the total value being 605,764*l.*, as compared with 532,362*l.* for the corresponding period of 1909, or 73,402*l.* more. We give a few of the leading items, the figures in brackets being those for 1909: Medicinal preparations, 87,773*l.* [69,946*l.*]; apothecaries' wares, 79,359*l.* [64,071*l.*]; unenumerated drugs and chemicals, 70,842*l.* [60,072*l.*]; disinfectants and germicides, 21,969*l.* [19,105*l.*]; acetic acid, 1,587 gals., value 400*l.* [1,177 gals., value 328*l.*]; nitric acid, 16,729 lb., or 316*l.* [24,605 lb., or 362*l.*]; sulphuric acid, 127,096 lb., or 761*l.* [92,017 lb., or 710*l.*]; borax, 611,398 lb., or 9,111*l.* [653,393 lb., or 9,519*l.*]; calcium carbide, 4,597,291 lb., or 20,106*l.* [2,872,242 lb., or 12,472*l.*]; potassium cyanide, 248,088 lb., or 6,572*l.* [514,498 lb., or 13,880*l.*]; sodium cyanide, 8,705,701 lb., or 281,196*l.* [7,460,744 lb., or 256,502*l.*]; opium, 551 lb., or 479*l.* [2,972 lb., or 1,927*l.*]; potash compounds, 570,905 lb., or 5,802*l.* [579,265 lb., or 6,699*l.*]; soda caustic, 2,755,957 lb., or 17,421*l.* [2,060,128 lb., or 13,497*l.*]. Not included in the above are: Glycerin for manufacturers, 9,604,346 lb., valued at 287,148*l.* [9,674,599 lb., valued at 213,912*l.*]; surgical instruments, 5,235*l.* [2,959*l.*]; essential and perfume oils, 11,634*l.* [7,585*l.*]; fixed oils, 435,081*l.* [362,456*l.*]; perfumed spirits, 5,068 gals. [3,535 gals.]; perfumery and toilet preparations, 32,256*l.* [25,892*l.*]; photographic materials, 23,005*l.* [21,548*l.*]; turpentine, 73,040 gals. [56,850 gals.]; quick-silver, 199,388 lb., or 22,093*l.* [195,651 lb., or 19,649*l.*]; sheep-dip, 59,741*l.* [51,885*l.*]; soap, 13,984,659 lb., valued at 168,190*l.* [14,260,800 lb., valued at 151,560*l.*], of which 779,103 lb., or 33,246*l.*, was toilet-soap [575,516 lb., or 23,600*l.*]; surgical and dental appliances, 19,581*l.* [12,628*l.*]

## Our German Letter.

(From a Special Correspondent.)

**A Quinine Jubilee.**—Dr. Oswald Hesse, manager of the Feuerbach department of the Associated Quinine-manufacturers, has just celebrated the jubilee of his connection with the Jobst-Zimmer Quinine-works. Dr. Hesse entered the Feuerbach works in 1860 as chemical director. He was awarded the Hanbury medal in 1892 by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

**The Imperial Chemical Institute.**—It is announced that the Association which is being formed under the auspices of the Kaiser to establish research-institutes in connection with existing Universities will be ready to exercise its functions in a few weeks' time. The foundation of a Kaiser Wilhelm Chemical Institute will probably be carried out with the means now at the disposal of the committee. The funds collected by the "Association for the Chemical Imperial Institute" will be also at the disposal of the new Association.

**The Deutsche Pharmazeutische Gesellschaft** celebrates its twentieth anniversary on December 10, and will hold on that date a festive meeting, in the course of which Dr. O. Anselmino will give a lecture on the new German Pharmacopœia. The meeting will be followed by a banquet, at which the representatives of a number of Pharmaceutical Associations at home and abroad will be present. The Pharmazeutische Gesellschaft has developed from small beginnings, having been founded by Professor Dr. Thoms, Dr. E. Ritsert, Dr. Holfert, M. Goeldner, and P. Guetzkow. Professor Dr. Thoms has acted as President of the Association, though for three years Director Finzelberg filled this post. The Pharmazeutische Gesellschaft has now some 800 members in Germany and abroad, the members being recruited from the pharmaceutical, medical, chemical, botanical, and pharmacognostic callings, as well as from official circles. The Association has up to now held 190 scientific meetings, and the number of scientific publications has reached 700.



## Legal Reports.

### Trade Law.

**An Oil Account.**—In the City of London Court on November 18, before Judge Rentoul, K.C., and a jury, an action was brought by Mr. Ernest W. Fischel, oil and tallow broker, against Messrs. P. H. Palmer & Co., oil-merchants, 202 Bishopsgate Street Without, to recover the sum of 50*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.*, the balance of account for linseed oil and soyabean oil supplied. The jury found for the plaintiff on the claim and counterclaim, and costs were allowed.

**Therapeutic Institute.**—In the West London County Court on November 22, application was made by Mr. F. L. Neve, of Neve, Beck & Kirby, to Sir W. Lucius Selfe for an order on Mrs. Donnithorpe, of 76 Queen's Gate, S.W., on a judgment for 21*l.* 12*s.* for medicines supplied by Messrs. Cooper & Co., Ltd., chemists, Gloucester Road. Mr. Neve said that the debtor had, in conjunction with Dr. Bach, carried on the business of a therapeutic institute at 160 Brompton Road. The medicines were supplied on order by the plaintiffs for the purposes of the institute, and Dr. Bach had disappeared. Since then Mrs. Donnithorpe had sold the business to Dr. Farnham, who, however, did not take over the liabilities. His Honour made an order for 2*l.* a month.

**Brokerage on Soya-beans.**—Mr. Justice Hamilton gave judgment in the King's Bench Division of the High Court on November 17 in the case of Andrew Weir & Co. v. the Anglo-Chinese Trading Co., in which the point to be decided was whether in the oil and seed trade it is the custom of the seller to pay the brokerage of 1 per cent. The subject of the case was a cargo of 6,000 tons soya-beans, valued at 46,500*l.*, and plaintiffs claimed to recover 465*l.*, 1 per cent. of the value, which had been withheld from them under the award of an arbitrator. In the result his Lordship said he did not think it had been established that there is a general custom in the trade of deducting 1 per cent. It seemed to him that there is no customary rate of brokerage, and that terms are always a matter of arrangement, and it is perfectly possible that a man who has a cargo could sell it at a net price. Therefore he gave judgment for the plaintiffs for the amount claimed, with costs.

**Focal-plane Shutters.**—In the City of London Court on November 22, before Judge Rentoul, K.C., Messrs. Tudor T. Hora & Co., chemists, 346 York Road, Wandsworth, sued Mr. Albrecht O. Roth, camera-expert, 9 Charterhouse Street, E.C., to recover the sum of nineteen guineas damages for not doing work to be done to six focal-plane shutters, as well as a Thornton-Pickard shutter. Mr. R. E. Negus, plaintiff's counsel, stated that Mr. Hora had taken out a patent for a focal-plane shutter, and he explained to the defendant that he wanted him to make some according to it. Defendant undertook to make certain models, and did so, but they were not quite satisfactory. At the beginning of this year a state had been reached at which a more or less satisfactory model had been completed. Plaintiff told defendant he would want twenty-five shutters altogether. Plaintiff supplied the parts or some of them—that was the gear wheels, which were required for the mechanism of the shutters. It was agreed that the six were to be supplied in six weeks' time. None of them had ever been delivered, and in June plaintiff had to withdraw the order and also to withdraw from the defendant the right to make the shutters under the patent. Defendant then claimed 5*l.* 10*s.* for work done, and plaintiff decided to give him another chance. Defendant agreed to finish the work by September 30. Plaintiff had paid defendant 5*l.* 10*s.*, but down to the present he had got no shutters. In fact, plaintiff had had to place the order in Germany. He therefore now demanded damages. Mr. Dwyer, defendant's counsel, said the defendant had paid 6*l.* into court, and no more was recoverable. The work which the defendant undertook was quite experimental, and no time had been stipulated; if there had been, there might have been some liability for damages. Defendant had tendered to the plaintiff all the work which he had done. At this stage the Court rose.

### High Court Cases.

[Unless where otherwise stated the actions are in the High Courts of Justice, London.]

#### BOVRIL AUSTRALIAN ESTATES.

In the Chancery Division, before Mr. Justice Neville on November 18, the matter of the Bovril Australian Estates, Ltd., was mentioned, Mr. Arthur Sims moving that the time be extended for registering certain mortgages, and his Lordship made the order, with the usual protection for twenty-one days.

### "DOLLY" BLUE APPEAL.

The Court of Appeal, consisting of the Master of the Rolls and Lords Justices Farwell and Kennedy, reversed on November 22 the judgment of Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady in the action by W. Edge & Sons, Ltd., against W. Nicolls & Sons, Ltd., in which his Lordship granted an interim injunction restraining the appealing defendants

"from passing off laundry blues, not of the plaintiffs' make, as goods of the plaintiffs', by imitating the get-up of plaintiffs' goods, and from supplying to persons asking or ordering laundry blue, or tints, with a stick in it, any laundry blue not of the plaintiffs' manufacture, as or for the goods of the plaintiffs' manufacture" (see *C. & D.*, July 30, p. 139).

The Master of the Rolls, in giving judgment in favour of the appellants (Messrs. Nicolls), pointed out that William Edge, the predecessor of the plaintiffs, in 1884 took out a patent which claimed "wrapping or parcelling up soluble or insoluble blue or other colour in a bag or cloth of fibrous substances provided with the attachment or handle C substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth." It is clear law, said his Lordship, that a patentee, when his patent has expired or been revoked, has thrown open to the public the right to use the patent article and that the fact of his user during the continuance of the patent does not entitle him to say that his user during the life of the patent has so far associated his name with the goods that no one else can thereafter use the lately patented article without deceiving the public or gaining the reputation of the patentee. The plaintiffs' present claim is (he continued) really equivalent to saying that the article lately patented cannot be used, and that the plaintiffs have acquired a monopoly with no limit in point of time. The plaintiffs relied upon user since 1891, and contended that by the mere fact that they had put their goods for eighteen years in a common and convenient receptacle they had obtained a right to prevent anyone else from so using the receptacle. His Lordship knew no authority in support of this proposition. The defendants had simply reproduced the lately patented article and had attached their own name to it by a clear label. No length of exclusive user can entitle a man to a monopoly in the manufacture and sale of a useful combination, not protected by patent. In allowing the appeal (with which the Lords Justices concurred) his Lordship said the action might possibly proceed to trial upon a distinct issue raised of alleged fraud. Nothing he had said was intended to prejudice any such question, but in his opinion it is not fraudulent in a trader merely to make and sell an article made by a rival trader with the intention to secure trade which otherwise would have been obtained by the rival.

### Pharmacy Act, 1868.

LICENSED VENDOR OF AGRI-HORTICULTURAL POISONS  
PROSECUTED UNDER SECTION 15.

Judge Gye, sitting in the County Court, Winchester, heard on November 16 the action by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain against Mr. C. W. Breadmore, florist and seedsman, High Street, Winchester, for selling XL-All insecticide (a preparation of nicotine) without labelling it with his name and address. Proceedings were taken under Section 15 for the same reason as in the Portsmouth case (see *C. & D.*, November 12, p. 715), which was also heard by Judge Gye. Evidence for the prosecution was given by George Waldo (who purchased the insecticide on July 13 and signed the poisons-book "G. Wilson, Shawford"), Mr. H. Moon, and Mr. Thomas Tickle. The first two witnesses testified to the defendant's address-label not being on the bottle, which was sold by an assistant. The defendant in evidence stated that the insecticide was labelled with his name and address before it was placed in stock. Mr. W. C. Connell, his assistant, and head-constable Sim (who had inspected the stock) corroborated, the latter saying that he had not found any bottle or tin of poison in defendant's stock without a label. His Honour elicited in the course of the hearing that the bottle obtained by Waldo had a stain on it like the remains of a label. He also questioned Mr. Moon as to why the Society delayed so long in taking proceedings. Ultimately his Honour dismissed the summons, with costs to the defendant on the highest scale. He deplored that a public body like the Pharmaceutical Society permitted one of its servants to do as Waldo did, then bring an



action. He was not satisfied that the bottle was sold without the label, and the Society had failed to prove to his satisfaction that it was. They should have called the defendant's early attention to the fact that the bottle had no label, so that he might have remedied the matter; but they had let five weeks go without any notice to him. Anything more lax or unbusinesslike on the part of a public authority he had never heard. Officials ought not to do anything with a view to catching every penalty they could get, and prosecuting for the sake of recovering a penalty.

#### Merchandise Marks Act, 1897.

##### BEECHAM'S PILLS.

Before Mr. Chester Jones at the Thames Police Court on November 23, the Leman Street Drug-stores, 127 Leman Street, London, E., were summoned for selling to John Norris twopennyworth of pills described on an invoice as Beecham's pills, which were spurious. Miss Ellen Kahle, the secretary of the company, represented the company. Mr. Young, solicitor for defendants, stated that his clients elected to have the case disposed of in that court, rather than appear before a jury. Mr. Lewis Margetts, solicitor, for the prosecutors, stated that in consequence of complaints he had received, Mr. Beecham caused certain purchases of pills to be made at defendants' shop, and in each instance it was found that the pills supplied were spurious. On November 14, when the purchase on which the summons was founded was made, an invoice was asked for, on which the words "Beecham's pills" were written as applying to the pills supplied. They also were found to be spurious. In due course Sergeant Stafford, armed with a search-warrant, visited the shop, when Miss Kahle, on being told the purpose of his errand, took something from a recess behind the counter and emptied the contents into the pocket of her apron. When she was asked what she had secreted, she was about to put something in her petticoat below her dress. Thereupon the Sergeant informed her that unless she produced what she had hidden, he would be compelled to summon a female searcher. She then produced about fifty pills, which were handed to Mr. J. A. Lockwood, one of Mr. Beecham's representatives, who pronounced them spurious. Subsequently a box, bearing Mr. Beecham's label, containing about fifty pills, was taken from an inner recess, which Miss Kahle described as being "Beecham's, and all right," but they also were spurious. In a back room two tins were discovered which contained from 1,000 to 1,500 pills, none of which were of prosecutor's manufacture, and the suggestion was that these would have been sold to the public as Beecham's pills, having regard to what transpired at the counter. The Stipendiary: Has the surrounding neighbourhood suffered at all? (Laughter.) Mr. Margetts: Very likely it has, but at present there are no serious complaints to bring before the Court. The extraordinary part of the case, he continued, was that not a single genuine Beecham's pill could be found on the premises. In spite of that fact defendants had secured a lot of Beecham's literature and strewn it about the place. Besides this they advertised Beecham's pills as being sold at four a penny. Answering an objection to a heavy penalty, which, he said, might be raised, that defendants were not carrying on a flourishing business, Mr. Margetts said that this was no excuse for their behaving dishonestly towards their customers. The company was registered on November 25, 1898, with a capital of 1,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares, and on May 3, 1899, there was an agreement by which Martin Kahle sold the business for 933*l.* in 933 fully-paid shares. That the present owner was not in such a poverty-stricken state as might be made to appear was proved by the fact that quite voluntarily Mrs. Kahle showed Sergeant Stafford two Post Office Savings Bank books, one showing a balance of 60*l.* in her own favour, and the other showing three or four pounds to the credit of her daughter. Mr. Young submitted that a *bona-fide* mistake had been made in the transaction, and that there had been no intention to defraud. Miss Kahle sold the spurious pills in the absence of her mother believing them to be genuine Beecham's. To endeavour to hide the pills on the appearance of Sergeant Stafford was a very foolish action on her part, but it was done on the impulse of the moment to shield her mother. He asked for a modified penalty, and submitted the books of the company, which, he added,

showed that the profits from the business did not exceed 67*l.* 7*s.* a year. Mr. Margetts pointed out that the pills should not have been sold as Beecham's, as there was not a genuine Beecham's pill in the place. Mr. Young: Ah, well! the demand for them was so great that they speedily got rid of them. (Laughter.) The Stipendiary imposed a fine of 3*l.*, and 3*l.* 3*s.* costs. Mr. Margetts requested an order for the confiscation of the spurious pills, stating that they were manufactured by a Brighton firm to closely resemble Beecham's. The Stipendiary consented to the order, saying that the police could keep the pills. Mr. Margetts: I should not advise them to take them, sir.

## Bankruptcy Reports.

**Re William Edward Hailstone**, Chemist and Druggist, Hadlow (Kent).—The adjourned examination of this debtor was held at the Tunbridge Wells Bankruptcy Court on November 21. The failure was due to litigation, and a solicitor acting on behalf of the Institute of Journalists examined him in this matter at great length.—The examination was closed.

**Re C. C. C. Wightman**, lately a partner in Caudery & Co., Chemical and General Merchants, Fenchurch Avenue, E.C.—The public examination of this debtor was appointed to be held at the London Bankruptcy Court on Thursday, November 24, but on the application of the Official Receiver the sitting was adjourned until February 9 next. He has lodged a statement of affairs showing total liabilities 36,904*l.* (unsecured, 16,904*l.*), and assets 38,218*l.*, representing his estimate of the surplus assets in the firm at the date of his retirement.

**Re A. F. Collins**, late of Newington Causeway, S.E., and Stockwell Road, S.W., Eucalyptus-manufacturer.—A sitting of the London Bankruptcy Court was held on November 23 for the public examination of this debtor, described as a political lecturer, residing at Abbey Town, Carlisle. Mr. W. P. Bowyer, Assistant Receiver, reported that the debtor was in Cumberland, and had written a letter stating that he did not possess the funds to defray the expenses of a journey to London. The debtor had suggested that he should either be publicly examined in Carlisle, or that the travelling-expenses should be defrayed by the "persecuting" creditor, as he termed the petitioning creditor. His Honour adjourned the sitting until January 18 next, to give the debtor an opportunity of attending at the court.

**Re Edward Alfred Naylor**, Silverdale, Woodchurch Road, Oxtou, lately carrying on business as a chemist and druggist at 41 Church Road, Higher Tranmere.—The public examination of this debtor was conducted by Mr. Marshall, Deputy-Registrar, at Birkenhead Bankruptcy Court on November 18. The first meeting of the creditors was reported in the *C. & D.*, October 22, p. 613, when the statement of affairs showed 582*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* unsecured liabilities, and 2*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* of assets. The debtor now attributed his failure to competition and loss of dispensing connection. In reply to Mr. Britten, Assistant Official Receiver, he said he purchased the Tranmere business in 1893 for 140*l.*, which he had saved as a chemist's assistant. For seven or eight years he carried it on with success. With 600*l.* he had left to him he opened a branch business at Derby Road, Tranmere, which was not a success. He gave that shop up five years ago, having lost money in it. During the six years he was a member of the Birkenhead Board of Guardians the business did not receive the personal attention it should have done, and suffered in consequence. He was also for a short period a member of the Birkenhead Town Council. He first became aware of his financial difficulties about twelve months ago. His dispensing-business began to drop off about 1904, in consequence of a medical man who lived in the neighbourhood, and who sent the whole of his prescriptions to him to be dispensed, having sold his practice to another doctor, who immediately commenced to make up his own prescriptions. From that time the business consisted chiefly in the sale of patent medicines. Last June two executions were levied against him by creditors, with the result that the business was sold. His wife carries on a nursing-home at the house in Woodchurch Road, of which she is the tenant, and she claims the household furniture.—The examination was closed.

**RATE OF RAT-REPRODUCTION.**—Dr. Dixon, during the course of lectures at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy on "State Control of Contagious and Infectious Diseases," asked his audience to marvel at the fact that a female rat will bear three to five litters of ten each year, at which rate one pair of rats in five years increase to over nine hundred billion rats, provided all survive. It is estimated that rats cost the Americans \$100,000,000 yearly in grain alone.



## Gazette.

### The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

#### RECEIVING ORDERS.

BERNARD, CLAUDE, Bristol, surgeon.  
WATT, ROBERT JOHN, Croydon, late Southminster, chemist.

#### ADJUDICATIONS.

BROWN, JAMES, 200 North Street and 113 University Avenue, Belfast, registered druggist.  
HILL, WALTER JAMES, Clevedon, surgeon.  
SMITH, SYDNEY, Wandsworth Bridge Road, London, S.W., physician and surgeon.  
WATT, ROBERT JOHN, Croydon, late Southminster, chemist.

## Deed of Arrangement.

**Marshall, John**, 10 Kayle Road and **William Rufus Marshall**, 13 Glenthorne Road, trading as Marshall Stores at 27 and 29 New Arcade, all Sunderland, Drug-store Keepers.—Trustee: J. E. Parker, 55 John Street, Sunderland, C.A. Dated November 12; filed November 18. Liabilities unsecured, 515*l.*; estimated net assets, 435*l.*. Among the creditors are: Breidenbach & Co. (52*l.*); F. S. Cleaver & Sons, Ltd. (10*l.*); Potter & Clarke, Ltd. (38*l.*); Wilkinson & Simpson, Ltd., Newcastle (18*l.*); B. Robinson & Co., Ltd., Pendleton (66*l.*).

## New Companies Registered.

The letters P.C. mean Private Company within the meaning of the Companies Act, 1907, and R.O., Registered Office.

**OZO INHALERS, LTD. (P.C.)**.—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in anatomical, orthopaedic and surgical appliances, chemists, druggists, etc. R.O., 16 Finsbury Circus, E.C.

**A. R. EWING & CO., LTD. (P.C.)**.—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 1,500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (500 preference). Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturing chemists, chemical-manufacturers, drysalters, etc. A. R. Ewing is the first director.

**GALE & CO., LTD. (P.C.)**.—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (9,000 5 per cent. cumulative preference). Objects: To take over the business of wholesale druggists carried on by T. Jefferson, P. A. P. Gale, and D. A. A. Gale at 15 Bouverie Street, E.C., as Gale & Co. The gentlemen named are the first directors.

**W. B. TAYLOR, CHEMIST, LTD. (P.C.)**.—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of a chemist and wine-merchant carried on by W. B. Taylor at 5 South Road, Bishop Auckland, as Taylor's Drug-stores. The first directors are W. B. Taylor (permanent managing director), J. Spilman, and D. Barker.

**VERNON & CO., LTD. (P.C.)**.—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of manufacturers and weavers of surgical dressings, sanitary towels, medicated and antiseptic goods, spinners, bleachers, dyers, etc., carried on by Vernon & Co., Ltd., at Penwortham Mill, Walton-le-Dale, Lancs. The first directors are J. Dewhurst, B. Crabtree, and J. J. Rawsthorn.

**PAWLUCAS, LTD. (P.C.)**.—Capital 6,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (4,000 preference). Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical, medicinal, chemical, industrial, and other preparations, etc., and to adopt an agreement with T. P. Lucas and C. Flint. The first directors are C. Flint, C. J. H. Cowdy, and W. E. Pinder. R.O., 25 Victoria Street, S.W.

**G. H. GRINDLEY & CO., LTD. (P.C.)**.—Registered in Dublin. Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business (wholesale or retail) of manufacturing and general chemists, druggists, opticians, etc. The first directors are H. T. Grindley, Zion Lodge, Rathgar, Dublin, chemist, and W. Cleary, 2 Westland Row, Dublin, L.P.S.I. R.O., 2 Westland Row, Dublin.

**V. G. S. SYND., LTD. (P.C.)**.—Capital 7,500*l.*, in 7,500 ordinary shares of 1*l.* each and 3,000 deferred shares of 1*l.* each. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in medicines, pharmaceutical and medical preparations, drugs, ointments and ingredients, etc., and to adopt an agreement with F. McDonald for the acquisition of a certain secret formula. The first directors are F. McDonald, W. P. Higham, C. S. Good, and H. J. Joseph.

**NEDAB (PORTSMOUTH), LTD. (P.C.)**.—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, drysalters, grocers, provision-merchants, oil and colour men, etc., to acquire the undertaking of vendors of the "Nedab Specialities," and to adopt an agreement with E. Springborn. The first directors are G. H. Wallbridge (managing director), E. Springborn, J. Vernon, and A. E. James. T. B. C. Wickham is the first secretary. R.O., 38 Sackville Street, Portsmouth.

## Company News.

**ILFORD, LTD.**—The directors recommend a dividend of 6 per cent. on the ordinary shares for the year ended October 31 last.

**BRITISH LYSOFORM CO., LTD.**—Report of liquidator, Mr. R. Lawson, at meeting to be held at 60 London Wall, London, E.C., on December 21, at 2.30 P.M.

**KERSAL VALE CHEMICAL CO., LTD.**—Claims to be sent to liquidator, Mr. J. W. Hirst, 28 Queen Street, Albert Square, Manchester, on or before December 10.

**MANN'S DRUG-STORES, LTD.**—Report of liquidator, Mr. C. Brannan, at meeting to be held at 12 King Street, Cheap-side, London, E.C., on December 19, at 3 P.M.

**CASSEL CYANIDE CO., LTD.**—The directors recommend a final dividend of 1*l.* per share, making 2*l.* for the year ended September 30, 1910. They also recommend a bonus of 1*l.* per share.

**LEWIS & BURROWS, LTD.**—The report for the year ending September 30, to be submitted to the meeting on November 30, states that the directors are glad to remark that the depression in trade from which they have suffered during the past two years appears to have passed away, the sales for some months having shown very considerable improvement; but unfortunately this improvement came too late to affect favourably the year under review. The premises at Holborn Bars, now used as offices, shop, and laboratory, have justified their acquisition, the sales in the shop and the output of the laboratory showing a satisfactory increase. The directors have recently acquired a building-lease of the premises at 207 High Street, Kensington, which, in their opinion, is likely to prove of great advantage to the company. It is proposed to pay upon the preference shares a further dividend of 3 per cent. (less income-tax), making 6 per cent. for the year. The profit-and-loss account shows a gross profit of 3,860*l.*, the net profit, after the deduction of salaries of general manager and secretary, directors' and auditors' fees, and depreciation, being 1,808*l.*. Alderman J. R. Brough and Mr. F. A. K. Hounsell, who retire by rotation, offer themselves for re-election.

## Births.

**DENNIS.**—At 16 Cecil Square, Margate, on November 18, the wife of W. Dennis, chemist and druggist, of a son (since dead) and a daughter.

**REILLY.**—At 3 Rue Dante, Nice, on November 15, the wife of Mr. Thomas J. Reilly (of Reilly & Co., wholesale chemists), of a son.

## Marriages.

**BURGESS—GOODYEAR.**—At St. John's Church, Bulawayo, on October 15, by the Ven. Archdeacon Foster, Frederick J. Burgess (Messrs. Lennon, Ltd.) to Alice Goodyear, of Port Elizabeth.

**FERRIER—BAIN.**—At the Station Hotel, Perth, by the Rev. J. P. Brownlie, on November 19, James P. Ferrier, chemist and druggist, son of Mr. D. H. Ferrier, J.P., chemist and druggist, Dundee, to Isabella, daughter of Mr. David Bain, Forgandenny, Perthshire.

## Deaths.

**BOWNE.**—At Montclair, New Jersey, U.S.A., on October 29, Mr. Samuel W. Bowne, proprietor of Scott's Emulsion in the Western Hemisphere, aged sixty-eight. Mr. Bowne was a cousin of the late Mr. Alfred Bowne-Scott, and they were in New York together working for salaries when, in 1873, they commenced their experiments on cod-liver-oil emulsion, and by 1884 the business they established in it warranted a branch in England. This



was founded by Mr. Scott, and in 1890 he and Mr. Bowne dissolved partnership, Mr. Bowne taking the Americas and Mr. Scott the rest of the world, both trading as Scott & Bowne. The American business has latterly been centred at Bloomfield, N.J. Mr. Bowne was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and gave a million dollars to the Twentieth Century Movement in the Methodist Church. He was a man of wide benevolence. He leaves a widow, three sisters, and a brother.

CLARK.—At Kirton-in-Lindsey, on November 17, Mr. Henry Sowerby Clark, M.R.C.V.S., chemist and druggist, aged forty-six. The funeral took place at Barton-on-Humber on November 21.

GRAVES.—On November 22, Mr. Robert Graves, chemist and druggist, 16 Queen Street, Cardiff, aged fifty-seven. Mr. Graves had been for over thirty years in the service of Mr. Robert Drane at his Queen Street pharmacy. Mr. Graves, who was a native of Louth, died from heart-failure.

HALL.—At Clapton on October 31, Mr. Robert Hall, pharmaceutical chemist, 24 Buckley Road, Brondesbury, London, N.W., aged seventy-five.

HODGES.—At 62 Hough Green, Chester, recently, Mr. William Hodges, pharmaceutical chemist, aged seventy-two. Mr. Hodges was in business at Eastgate Row, Chester, for thirty-eight years, before retiring about six years ago. He is survived by a son and a daughter.

JAMES.—On November 2, Mr. Henry James, chemist and druggist, 182 Stroud Green Road, London, N., aged sixty-three.

JONES.—Recently, Mr. Hugh Price Jones, chemist and druggist, Westbury Mount, Menai Bridge, aged seventy-two.

MACDONALD.—At 43 Finlay Drive, Dennistoun, on November 18, Margaret Jarvie, widow of the late Mr. Angus MacDonald, chemist and druggist, Glasgow.

ROBERTS.—On November 1, Mr. William Roberts, chemist and druggist, 43 Norland Road, Notting Hill, London, W., aged forty-seven.

THORN.—On November 12, Mr. John James Thorn, pharmaceutical chemist, The Green, Wye, Kent, aged sixty-six.

TREMEER.—On November 17, Mr. John Joseph Tremeer, J.P., chemist and druggist, of The Laurels, Rumsam, Barnstaple, aged sixty-six. Mr. Tremeer, who was a native of South Molton, served his apprenticeship with Mr. Norrington of Barnstaple. He was subsequently at Weston, Sheffield, and in London, returning to Barnstaple over thirty-five years ago, where he was in business in The Square for a quarter of a century. Besides being a Justice of the Peace for the Borough, he acted as a Governor of the North Devon Infirmary.

## Personalities.

MR. W. EDMONDSON, chemist and druggist, 30 Highgate, Kendal, has been appointed a member of the Borough Education Committee.

MR. R. R. BENNETT, B.Sc., Ph.C., of University College Hospital, London, W.C., has been elected a Fellow of the Institute of Chemistry.

MR. A. F. LONGDON, of Messrs. F. Longdon & Co., Ltd., surgical-bandage makers, Derby, has been appointed a Governor of Derby School.

DR. G. T. MOODY, F.I.C., F.C.S., member of the Senate of London University and student of Gray's Inn, has been called to the Bar.

MR. A. BATE, chemist and druggist, of Messrs. Bate & Gorst, 23 Market Street, Lancaster, has been re-elected Treasurer of the Lancaster Chamber of Trade.

MR. H. C. EDWARDS, chemist and druggist, 17 Queen's Road, Hastings, has been elected to the committee of the Hastings and St. Leonards Trade-protection Society.

COUNCILLOR J. H. COLEMAN, chemist and druggist, 7 Worcester Street, Wolverhampton, has been placed on the Educational Committee of the Wolverhampton Council.

ALDERMAN R. SHORROCK, J.P., Chairman of the North-East Lancashire Chemists' Association, has been re-elected Chairman of the Darwin Corporation Health Committee, a position which he has held for many years.

MR. J. R. JOHNSON, Ph.C., F.C.S., leaves London this week for another business tour in the Far East. On this occasion he is also commissioned by Messrs. Oppenheimer, Sons & Co., Ltd., as well as by Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co.

BRO. J. G. STURTON, pharmaceutical chemist, 42 Bridge Street, Peterborough, was installed Worshipful Master of the Peterborough and Counties Lodge of Freemasons, No. 2296, on November 14. The installation attracted a record attendance.

MR. JABEZ A. JONES, chemist, Cardiff, who stood as an Independent Liberal candidate in a municipal by-election, was defeated by a Radical candidate by the small majority of seventy-seven. Mr. Jones had stood aside at the election early in November to enable a friend to obtain a seat.

MR. W. E. ROGERS, of Messrs. Walker, Rogers, Ltd., Sacke's Buildings, Johannesburg, who has been over in this country for some months on a business trip, is returning to South Africa on November 26 by the *Edinburgh Castle*. Mr. Rogers has secured many business agencies while in this country.

THE death of Mr. C. S. N. Hallberg, of Chicago, is very generally deplored by American pharmacists, and many leaders of the craft have communicated appreciations to the last issue of the "American Druggist." We understand that Mr. Hallberg did not graduate at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy until 1876, two years after Mr. Henry S. Wellcome and Dr. F. B. Power.

DR. THOMAS CALLAN, a member of the staff of the Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratories, has recently been awarded the Victor Meyer Memorial Prize by the University of Heidelberg for the dissertation presented in connection with his examination for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. This dissertation was adjudged to be the most meritorious of all those submitted in the domain of organic chemistry during the academic year 1909-10. The honour to Dr. Callan is one rarely attained by English students.

ON the occasion of his silver wedding, on November 19, Mr. W. Thomas, the senior Lancashire representative of Messrs. Potter & Clarke, Ltd., and Mrs. Thomas entertained over fifty of their friends to a social evening at the Corn Exchange Hotel, Manchester. An interesting feature of the evening was the reading of a letter of congratulation from the directors of Messrs. Potter & Clarke, Ltd., pointing out that Mr. Thomas had spent practically the whole of his married life in their service, and conveying their cordial appreciation of his endeavours, with best wishes for future welfare.

## Trade Notes.

HORLICK'S MALTED MILK.—The Horlick's Malted Milk Co., Slough, are offering in this issue to supply advertising-matter regarding their product.

CALMINE is the sodium salt of diethyl-barbituric acid which is made by the Crown Chemical-works, Ltd., 63 Crutched Friars, London, E.C. The advantages of Calmine are referred to in the company's advertisement.

DAISY CALENDARS.—Daisy, Ltd., Mammoth Works, Leeds, make an announcement in this issue regarding the supply of "Daisy" Calendars for 1911. The calendars are for distribution to customers, and are supplied with orders for "Daisy" powders.

NEAVE'S FOODS.—The prices of Neave's Milk Food and Neave's Health Diet are protected so that a profit of 25 per cent. is secured to the retailer. Messrs. Josiah R. Neave & Co., Fordingbridge, whose advertisement appears in this number, are making an offer to send showcards, etc., to chemists on application.



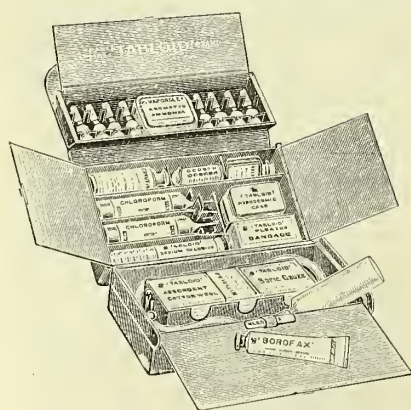
**A THERMOS ADVERTISEMENT.**—In the current number of the "Automobile and Carriage Builders' Journal" is given an illustration of an automobile which has been built as an advertisement car for the Thermos flasks and jugs. The body of the car consists of a huge aluminium model of a Thermos flask, the mouth of the flask being utilised as the bonnet of the car. The chauffeur looks out of perforations in the upper side of the flask. The wheels have upon them the words "Keeps Hot" and "Keeps Cold." The body of the car bears upon it the inscription "Thermos Flasks and Jugs" in blue.

**CELLULOSE FILMS.**—Mr. W. Martindale, 10 New Cavendish Street, London, W., is now selling new cellulose films which should find numerous applications in surgery as a substitute for oiled silk. They are made in three forms—taffetas cristal (yellow), aseptaflim (soft, white), and cellofine (thin, white). The cellulose films are grease-proof, unaffected by alcohol, ether, or chloroform, and can be sterilised at 300° F. for an hour without change. The films are practically non-inflammable. Mr. Martindale, who gives further details in his advertisement, will supply samples and prices to any of our readers who send him postcard requests.

**LIVERPOOL VIRUS FOR RATS.**—Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd., 55 Hanover Street, Liverpool, inserted in our issue of November 19 an advertisement regarding the styles in which the "Liverpool" Virus for Rats is supplied. Unfortunately, the retail price of the largest size was incorrectly given. This retails at 6s., and not at 6d., as was stated in the advertisement. We understand that the virus is in excellent demand at present, consequent upon the discovery of plague-bacillus in Suffolk, and Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, as the wholesale agents, are desirous of assisting retailers in every way to bring the merits of this virus before the public.

**P.A.T.A. PRICES.**—The Protected List for November contains the following additions: Armour's antiseptic coal-tar soap, Bourjois' additional preparations, Cook's additional preparations, Gibbs' cold-cream foam, Hassall's brush and sponge powders, Horlick's malted-milk lunch-tablets, John Knight's "Baby's Own" soap, Marmola prescription-tablets, Orain tablets, Piver's quadruple essence violettes de Parme, Pulticine, Raynaud's Japanese rose perfume, Securitas additional preparations, Woolley's milk and malted food, Yardley's shaving-tablet. The removals are: American Agencies' preparations, Hockin's asthma remedy, Prince's polishing powder.

**PHYSICIAN'S EMERGENCY CASE.**—Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, London, E.C., have introduced an emergency case for the use of physicians. It weighs 5 lb., measures  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$  in., and is covered with leather. In addition to "Tabloid" pleated and compressed bandages, cotton-wool, "Wellcome" Brand chloroform, etc., its contents include "Vapo-



role" strychnine sulphate, morphine hydrochloride "ernutin," pituitary (infundibular) extract and "hemisine." A hypodermic case containing an "All-Glass" syringe, two needles and five tubes of "tabloid" hypodermic products occupies one small compartment, while such useful items as a stomach tube, an apparatus for intravenous injection, a bottle of "Soloid" corrosive sublimate, a minim measure, and "Vaporole" aromatic ammonia for use as smelling salts are disposed in divisions of appropriate shape.

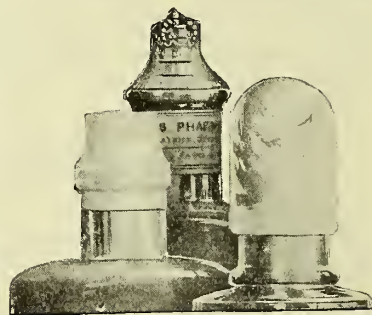
**BRONCHIAL LOZENGES AND BROMPTON HOSPITAL LOZENGES** will be in seasonable demand in consequence of the prevalent frost and fog. The style of packing these lines by the Standard Tablet and Pill Co., Ltd., Hove, includes all the attractive desiderata of neatness and compactness, as seen in their illustrated advertisement in our issue of last week, which induces a customer to take a tin instead of a smaller quantity of loose lozenges in a packet. The lozenges come in the category of "known, admitted, and approved" remedies, and lacquered tins containing forty-four agreeable and stimulating lozenges selling at 6d. cost 3s. per dozen, or 2s. 9d. per dozen in gross lots, carriage paid, and with own name and address.

**SHOWCARDS.**—Messrs. Dudley & Co. 451 and 558 Holloway Road, London, N., showcard manufacturers, have published a list giving particulars of window-tickets, showcards, and posters specially prepared for use at this season of the year. There are "Christmas Present" tickets in a great variety of shapes and colouring. All the printing processes employed for this class of goods, such as white and



gilt blocking, aërographing, crusher working, patent edge blocking and relief stamping, have been pressed into service. The illustration is of one of the "holly-wreath" showcards. Other things enumerated on the list are cut-out figures of Father Christmas, ranging in height from 8 in. to 5 ft., artificial holly, icicles, holly bordering, paper garland, fancy boxes for boxing Christmas presents, and clockwork window-attractions. The list will be posted free to C. & D. subscribers.

"VISCAPS" AND "VISCORKS" are the new names applied respectively to the well-known Viscose caps and to Viscose covered corks. In Viscorks the basic material is, except the head, covered with a pliable and non-permeable coating of Viscose, which completely protects the cork from the action of oils and dilute alkalis or acids. They are specially adapted to replace rubber corks in such cases as stoppering toilet and household ammonia. A trial shows that the new type of cork grips well, and its covering improves both its appearance and strength. Packers of toilet-articles, perfumery, etc., will find an extended use for Viscorks in replacing glass stoppers, the combination of Viscorks with Viscaps preventing evaporation and access of air or discoloration of contents equally as well as the more expensive ground-glass stopper. At the same time there is, especially with cottage-topped Viscorks, no sacrifice of elegance of appearance. Viscorks are available in the same sizes as rubber stoppers (Nos. 1 to 10), at from 1s. 9d. to 5s. per gross. Viscaps, owing to their many virtues, the chief of which is simplicity of application, as seen in the above illustration, have their popularity testified in nearly every pharmacy. They are available in various colours. The Viscose Development Co., Ltd., 11 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., will be pleased to answer inquiries.





## Westminster Wisdom.

A Record of Parliamentary Progress.

### THE FINANCE BILL.

This measure passed through the House of Commons on Wednesday. It is confined to renewing the tea and income taxes, no other being impeded. Minor administrative provisions are also made.

### CARBOLIC-ACID POISONING.

Sir Francis Channing has during the present week called the attention of the Home Secretary to the recent death in Oxford Prison caused by the application of undiluted carbolic acid. As the wardress stated that she was ignorant of the fact that carbolic acid is harmful or corrosive, Sir Francis suggested that there should either be a prosecution for manslaughter or such steps taken as would protect prisoners from such treatment.

### THE PARLIAMENTARY SITUATION.

According to present arrangements the prorogation of Parliament will take place on Monday, November 28, and, after the meeting of the Privy Council formally dissolving Parliament, the scene of operations will be transferred at once to the constituencies. The Shops Bill is to be held over to another Session, when it is expected that the Government to be returned to power (of whatever party) will deal with the question which has now reached so advanced a stage that it would be regretted if all the labour which has been expended upon its provisions by the past and present Home Secretaries was to be absolutely wasted. It is probable also that an early effort will be made in the next Parliament to proceed with the Bill which Sir William Collins has introduced for the purpose of dealing with the question of death-certification and coroners' law generally.

### THE IMPORTATION OF MORPHINE.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, November 23, Sir J. D. Rees asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether morphine and other compounds of opium are permitted to be imported from Europe into Hong-Kong.

Mr. Harcourt replied that morphine and compounds of opium may only be imported into Hong-Kong for sale or use there by persons licensed by the principal medical officer. At present not more than ten licences may be in force at any one time, and the licensees are of course subject to a number of restrictions and conditions. Morphine and compounds of opium may also be imported for export, but only under licence from the Superintendent of Imports and Exports. Such a licence may only be granted in respect of countries which do not prohibit the import of morphine and compounds of opium.

### THE SUPPLY OF ANTITOXIN.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, November 23, Mr. Chancellor put the following question to the President of the Local Government Board as to

"what is the authority by which the Local Government Board was empowered to issue the recent order to local authorities suggesting the supply of antitoxin to private medical practitioners out of the public rates, and the employment of special medical aid for its administration without reference to Parliament; whether he is aware that the Registrar-General's Returns report that during the last fifteen years, since antitoxin has been introduced, the death-rate from diphtheria to the living population of this country has increased by 25 per cent. above that of the fifteen years prior to its introduction; and that in the tables supplied by the Metropolitan Asylums Board's reports for the past fifteen years the cases of diphtheria treated without antitoxin have declined double as much as those cases which were treated with it."

Mr. John Burns, in reply to the first part of the question, stated that separate orders were issued to sanitary authorities in London and to local authorities outside London, these being made under the powers of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, and the Public Health Act, 1875. He added that the treatment of diphtheria by antitoxin has saved a large number of lives. The mortality per cent. of all cases treated by the Metropolitan Asylums Board in 1890-93, before the use of antitoxin, was 30.4, and in 1909 it fell to 9.7 per cent.

### THE SHOPS (No. 2) BILL.

The Home Secretary has written to Mr. J. A. Seddon, M.P., informing him that although the Bill has been abandoned for the present, it will, it is hoped, be reintroduced at the commencement of the new Parliament. In the course of his letter the Home Secretary says:

"We have introduced many and important modifications in the structure of the original Bill. These all follow two main principles. The first is that, while every help shall be given, including active assistance from the Home Office, for the realisation of any real desire for early closing which may exist among the traders themselves, no shop shall be closed on a weekday except by the vote of a large majority of the traders affected. The second principle is that, without undue strain or inconvenience to shopkeepers who are affected, an earnest effort shall be made to reduce the hours of work of those shop-assistants whose hours of labour are in the present unregulated conditions of trade unnecessarily, unnaturally, and sometimes intolerably prolonged. Within these limits I have been striving diligently to secure agreement between all parties affected, and to reconcile the various conflicting and divergent interests, and I am glad to think that a considerable measure of success has already been attained."

It is probable that some further interviews will take place between the Home Secretary and the parties affected by the proposals contained in the Government measure, and that these may possibly include the representatives of the Pharmaceutical Society whose delegates were recently appointed.

## Optical Observations.

By a Chemist-Optician.

### The Optical Institute.

THE proposal of the L.C.C. to erect a technical institute in Clerkenwell solely for the purposes of optical education is one which should be backed up by opticians to the best of their ability. It is curious to note, however, that the circular-letter mooted the matter was issued shortly after the deputation headed by the Master of the S.M.C. had made a protest to the Education Committee of the L.C.C. in reference to the now famous pamphlet "Hints to Parents." It seems rather paradoxical that the same body which up to the present time, as I have noted at intervals in this column, has issued cards and pamphlets to the public warning them against going to opticians, should now be the prime movers in the establishment of an institute which, according to the preliminary prospectus, is to contain a department devoted to sight-testing and physiological optics. This view of the matter also would seem to completely refute one of the standard arguments of the anti-optician, that no matter how well trained or experienced a refractionist may be as regards the eye, he is quite incapable of doing trustworthy work unless he has had a medical training. As regards the scheme itself, there is no question.

### Winter-work.

Now that the winter is here and has brought with it the reawakening of the optical business, the chemist-optician could, among other methods, draw the attention of the public to his optical branch by reading papers before local societies, etc. There are in most towns institutes or clubs which are always anxious to obtain instructive lectures or readings for their members, and as these are often given in connection with photography there is no reason why they should not be extended to include optics. Several very interesting papers could be given dealing with the properties of light in reference to the eye, and also about the structure and functions of the eye itself, with and without spectacles. If dealt with, as it should be, in popular language, illustrated by diagrams and, wherever possible, by lantern-slides, such an evening's entertainment ought to go a long way towards enlightening the general public as to the up-to-date methods of the modern refractionist, and incidentally increasing the lecturer's local custom. In spite of all that may be said to the contrary, I believe that the public prefer to go to the optician for spectacles, as there is a great dread among many people, even of the better classes, of going to a doctor unless really forced.



## Scientific Progress.

Temperatures under this heading are on the Centigrade scale.

**The Oleo-resin of *Pinus insularis*.**—Brooks ("Philippine Jour. Science," 1910, 229) has examined the oleo-resin of this species of pine, and finds that the oil has a specific gravity at 30°/30°=0.8593, refractive index 1.4656 at 30°, and optical rotation +26.5°. Not less than 96 per cent. distils between 154° and 165.5°. In five other samples the optical rotation varied from +13.15° to +27.48°. The resin was found to contain over 90 per cent. of abietic acid.

**Atomic Weights.**—The International Table of Atomic Weights for the year 1911 has just been published over the signatures of F. W. Clarke, T. E. Thorpe, W. Ostwald, and G. Urbain. Based on oxygen as 16 and hydrogen as 1.008, the following values are of interest: Argon, 39.88; europium, 152; helium, 3.99; lutetium, 174; radium, 226.4; xenon, 130.2; dysprosium, 162.5; gadolinium, 157.3; krypton, 82.92; neon, 20.2; terbium, 159.2.

**Tunisian Olive Oil.**—Marcille ("Ann. Fabrice," 1910, 372) has examined a large number of Tunisian olive oils, and has confirmed previous observers' statements that many of these oils give a distinct reaction with Bawduin's reagent (furfuraldehyde and hydrochloric acid), which is usually attributed to the presence of sesame oil. An experienced observer can, however, discriminate between the colours developed, but a bald statement that olive oil shall not yield any red coloration with this reagent will exclude many pure samples of oil.

**Triformin.**—Romburgh has prepared the simplest of all the glycerides by heating for a considerable time a mixture of glycerin and anhydrous formic acid. A mixture rich in the formic acid esters of glycerin is obtained, from which pure triformin  $C_3H_7(OCHO)_3$ , melting at 18°, can be separated on fractional distillation. It is soluble in warm water. As pure triformin is saponified by the same amount of caustic potash as over three times its weight of linalyl acetate, even the mixtures of mono-, di-, and tri-formin represents far more than their weight of linalyl acetate, this substance should be carefully watched for as an adulterant of ester containing essential oils.

**Potent Drugs of the Russian Pharmacopœia.**—The following summary shows the official strengths demanded in official preparations of potent galenicals in the new Russian Pharmacopœia, as well as the alkaloidal equivalent of each c.c. of normal solution:

	Per Cent. Alkaloids	Gram
Ext. belladonnae (leaves) ...	1.5	1 c.c. N/100 HCl=0.00289
Ext. hyoscyami (dried leaves) ...	0.3	1 c.c. N/100 HCl=0.00289
Ext. strychni (nucis vomicae) ...	16	1 c.c. N/10 HCl=0.0364
Folia belladonnae ...	0.35	1 c.c. N/100 HCl=0.00289
Folia hyoscyami ...	0.1	1 c.c. N/100 HCl=0.00289
Radix ipæacuanhæ ...	2	1 c.c. N/10 HCl=0.0241
Semen strychni (nux vomica) ...	2.5	1 c.c. N/10 HCl=0.0364
Tr. aconiti ...	0.05	1 c.c. N/100 HCl=0.00645
Tr. belladonnae ...	0.035	1 c.c. N/100 HCl=0.00289
Tr. strychni (nucis vomicae) ...	0.25	1 c.c. N/10 HCl=0.0364
Tubera aconiti ...	0.8	1 c.c. N/100 HCl=0.00645

The alkaloidal precipitant is ammonia, and the solvent for the alkaloids ether. A mixture of chloroform and ether appears only in the assay-process of nux vomica and its preparations. Hæmatoxylin is the indicator in every instance. In the case of opium and its preparations, the morphine is estimated by the gravimetric method, ammonia being used to precipitate the alkaloid, while the aqueous liquid is repeatedly shaken with ether (in the German Pharmacopœia the narcotine is mainly precipitated as the salicylate by the addition of sodium salicylate); 0.4 gram of morphine is to be obtained—

From 2 grams of extractum opii ...	20 %
From 4 grams of opium ...	10 %
From 40 grams of tr. opii ...	1 %
From 40 grams of tr. opii crocata ...	1 %

In cortex cinchonæ the alkaloids are precipitated by adding tartaric acid to the filtrate obtained by extracting the powdered bark, mixed with calcium hydroxide, on the water-bath with alcohol. The filtrate from the acidified solution is made alkaline with caustic-soda solution, and then shaken up three to five times with chloroform. The latter is evaporated, and the weight of both residues, dried at 100° C., gives the weight of alkaloids obtained from the bark. Cantharides is required to yield 0.8 per cent. of cantharidin, determined by extraction with chloroform and washing with petroleum ether. Codeine phosphate should lose 8 per cent. of weight on drying at 100° C.; this would indicate a preparation containing two molecules of water (B.P.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  H<sub>2</sub>O).

**HAWAIIAN HONEY.**—During 1909 the exports of honey from Wawaii amounted in value to 10,771*l.*, as compared with 7,604*l.* in 1908.



Postal Address:  
C & D. INFORMATION DEPARTMENT. 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.  
Telegraphic Address: "CHEMICUS LONDON."  
Telephone No.: BANK 852 (two lines).

The object of this Department is to supply names and addresses of Manufacturers of, or Agents for, goods pertaining to the Chemical, Drug and Allied Trades. The "Buyers' Guide" in each issue of "The Chemist and Druggist" affords much information but inquiries for anything not referred to therein may be addressed to this Department. Replies will be furnished immediately, or inserted in this section free of charge.

### INFORMATION WANTED.

We would be obliged if any reader would inform us by post-card or telephone who are the makers or agents of the articles mentioned in the following inquiries received since our last issue:

- 113/30. Japan kananga-water.
- 113/47. "Valsine" floor-powder.
- 105/27. "Wroughton's ointment."
- 109/49. "Reeve's instep support."
- 114/53. "Puro" (a food): maker.
- 108/72. "Glyco-septine": supply.
- 104/21. "Beehive": complexion-soap.
- 103/37. "Wheatina": London agents.
- 101/22. "Lufkin solution": what is it?
- 110/9. "Climax" milk-steriliser: makers.
- 108/66. W. H. Leland Co., of U.S.A.: British agents.

### INFORMATION SUPPLIED.

During the past week we have answered inquiries regarding the following articles. The information will be repeated to any other inquirers who send to the Department a stamped and addressed envelope for the purpose.

- Agar-agar: first-hand supply (112/40).
- Ayer's sarsaparilla: makers and London agents (112/14).
- Bayly Clanahan's ammon. carb.: supply (112/69).
- Bee-vaccinator: maker (108/73).
- Biocitin: makers (111/5).
- British Liquezone Co.: address (Dutch inquiry) (110/28).
- "Broomassite": makers (106/18).
- Cellophane: London supply (112/33).
- Celluloid boxes, etc.: suppliers (112/42).
- Clift's insecticide: makers (107/73).
- Clinical-thermometer cases (metal): makers (103/69).
- Cockle's antibilious pills: makers (107/49).
- Crystalline: makers and London supply (108/74).
- Crystolis: makers (108/74).
- Cuprargol: particulars and supply (112/31).
- Daisy fly-killer: maker (109/1).
- Eastman's perfume specialties (111/53).
- Electrozone disinfectant: supply (107/55).
- Enema-fittings: suppliers (107/69).
- Eupnein elixir: makers and agents (110/20).
- "Garden-party" perfume: makers (111/53).
- Gold-bronze powder: supply (25/20).
- Hibbert's specialties: makers (111/53).
- Iglodine: makers (112/42).
- "Kohol": proprietors (111/6).
- "Lapiline" preparations: makers and agents (107/50).
- "Lodal" makers (108/67).
- Magnesium chloride (commercial): makers 107/29).
- Marmola preparations: makers and London supply (25/40).
- "Monkey Brand" soap: makers (112/14).
- Orange-sticks: wholesale suppliers (106/32).
- Paris green: first-hand supply (112/13).
- Patent cleansing comb: supply (106/17).
- Radium: suppliers (106/24).
- "Red Rose" specialties for colds, etc.: makers (113/16).
- Sapalbin: makers (108/42).
- Siegel's syrup: actual makers (112/14).
- Trichoria soap: makers (109/52).
- Vanillin: Swiss manufacturers (105/56).
- Vin de Val: maker and London supply (112/14).
- Voelt's (Dr.) diabetic biscuits: maker and London supply (103/38).
- Wood's corn-plasters: makers and agents (103/60).

THE exports of Cape argol show a considerable falling-off this year, the shipments for the nine months ending September 1910 being 57,813 lb. (920*l.*), against 99,531 lb. (1,495*l.*) for the corresponding period of 1909.



## Observations and Reflections.

By Xrayser II.

### The Case for Women in Pharmacy,

so ably set forth by Miss Burstall the other day, might have been strengthened by a reference to the medical practice of the Middle Ages. So far is it from being true that woman's "incursions" into pharmacy are a new departure on her part, that it would probably be nearer the mark to say that she is thus only endeavouring to regain her old position as the equal co-worker with man. It has been brought to mind by the little guide-book issued by the British Medical Association in connection with its seventy-eighth annual meeting last July, that in almost the earliest extant legal record of medical practice in this country (dated 1389), both men and women are mentioned as being occupied in cures and the art of surgery, as again in a petition to the king dated 1421, which seems, however, to have been directed in part against women, since it prayed that the practice of medicine might be restricted to the graduates of some University. Be this as it may, it was only by taking advantage of an apparent oversight in the Charter of the Society of Apothecaries that

### Miss Elizabeth Garrett

(Dr. Garrett Anderson) succeeded, in 1860, in obtaining a licence to practise, and even this door of admission to the profession was immediately afterwards closed against what an old medical writer calls "that wonderfull creature in nature, a Woman-Doctor." Since 1876, as is well known, all our medical licensing bodies have been empowered to admit women to their degrees, and the woman-pharmacist logically follows. It would not be fair to attribute what even so advanced a thinker as George Meredith called "the most indigestible fact of the century," the movement of women towards industrial independence, entirely to a feeling of jealousy. This cannot be the reason why our older Universities still refuse them degrees, or why Mme. Curie's admission to the Academy of Science is opposed in Paris; but although we are in this matter swayed largely by the inherited feeling that woman's proper place is in the home, it cannot be doubted that the baser motive, fear of competition in the labour market, is also operative to a considerable extent. This is sufficiently evident, so far as our own trade is concerned, by the suggestion put forth with a semblance of authority that the demand of women for a fair field and no favour in pharmacy should be granted on condition that they agree not to accept lower salaries as assistants than men. There is no reason to suppose women will do this if they can help it; but it is not wonderful that after we have for centuries insisted on their natural inferiority as workers, they are forced to accept lower terms. It is this attitude of sufferance that turns women of spirit into suffragettes—and no wonder!

### Sulphur

is a good medicine, after all. I chuckled when I read your report of Professor Wild's exposition of its virtues before the Therapeutical Section of the Royal Medical Society, for it brought back to my mind the facetious but virulent attack which Sir James Crichton Browne once made on the old favourite sulphur, as its virtues were expounded in "Diseases and Remedies." That distinguished alienist is fond of a subject which tickles the public fancy, and I commend to his attention for his next great public utterance the virtues of sulphur and treacle.

### First Aid in the Minor

will not, I fancy, appeal very strongly to your readers. The good Samaritan is somewhat out of place in the chemist's shop, and is not unlikely to find it a very awkward place. It is not many years since I had an experience of this, which, for the warning of others, I may perhaps relate here. A girl was brought to me with her hand very badly cut by the breaking of some glass. I bound up the wound, but suspecting that she was a bad subject and that complications might ensue, gave explicit instructions that the hand should be shown to a doctor. This was not done for three or four days, when blood-poisoning had set in. The consequence was that the girl lost a finger or two, while I was bullied by the doctor and threatened—at his instance, I suspected—with an action for damages. This is but one of several similar cases that have happened within my knowledge, and I have come to the conclusion that there is nothing the pharmacist has more reason to dislike than the call to render such "aid." He rarely gets thanks for it, and never anything more, and the risk of future unpleasantness is very real. The division of the Minor is a different matter, and I am glad to see it urged so persistently and from so many quarters. There is no doubt that the present system is driving hundreds of good men out of the trade; which would not, perhaps, matter much to those who are in it, but for the fact that many of these rejected ones become far more troublesome rivals as unregistered druggists than they would otherwise have been as pharmacists. The splitting up of the trade into two distinct and legally recognised bodies will surely come before long if things continue to go as at present.

### Rats,

though never warmly welcomed, have usually been allowed within limits as cheap and efficient scavengers, to say nothing of the excellent sport they have afforded to men and dogs. Our raids upon them when I was a country lad were conducted with admirable temper (at least on our side), and, whatever the farmers might have said, the farmers' sons would certainly have been sorry to see the game little beasts exterminated. Rats have many interesting and some amiable traits: they are among the most graceful and intelligent of the smaller animals, they have proved delightful pets, and have lightened the burden of solitary imprisonment by the faithfulness of their friendship. According to Shakespeare and Ben Jonson, they have no love for poetry; but it is not clear whether it is not exclusively Irish poetry that is meant; and we have the evidence of the story of the Pied Piper that they are sensitive to the charm of music. They have, or once had, a place in medicine, having been found of good effect in cases of incontinence of urine; and they are not included by Ramesey among poisonous animals, though frogs, toads, dogs, and even the "harmless necessary cat" are. I am afraid, nevertheless, that their bite is apt to be venomous; certainly a relative of my own died in a few hours from the effects of a rat-bite, helped, perhaps, by his unfortunate habit of insufficiently diluting his gin. They have now, at any rate, become a serious danger to the public health as agents in the spread of plague-infection, and their destruction is a necessity. Cunning as they are, it is not very difficult to poison them, and the means now being taken by local authorities, aided by individual effort, should be sufficient to cope with the danger. There is certainly no cause for panic, and (says "The Lancet") no justification for alarm as regards the acceptance of produce from the infected districts.



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## Editorial Articles.

### Counter-prescribing.

THERE will probably never be agreement in England regarding the ethics of counter-prescribing by chemists, but it would be a good thing if coroners and doctors would recognise that there are two sides to the question. It rarely happens that the deaths investigated with which chemists are concerned differ from scores of deaths which occur daily, but in the latter medical men have been in attendance and have certified the causes of death, so no inquests are held. It appears to be the practice in some cases to make chemists the scapegoat, when there is not the slightest necessity, and, far too frequently, it is represented that prescribing by chemists is something in the nature of a criminal offence. In a case reported this week regarding the death of an infant through suffocation while in bed with its parents, the mother mentioned that some days before she had taken the baby to a chemist, who gave her syrup of rhubarb, which did it good. Obviously, this had nothing whatever to do with the baby's death, nevertheless the following conversation took place between the Coroner and a medical witness:

Dr. Waldo (Coroner) asked Dr. McCarthy, who was called in after death, if it was usual for chemists to prescribe.

Dr. McCarthy said that unfortunately there was such a practice, especially in the case of babies, and it was a most pernicious one.

Dr. Waldo: They have no right to do so, have they?

Dr. McCarthy: Of course not.

Dr. Waldo: And you think that the practice is wrong?

Dr. McCarthy: It is almost criminal.

Dr. Waldo: You go so far as that?

Dr. McCarthy: Certainly. A salesman in a chemist's shop has no more right than the man in the street to prescribe for a patient.

Dr. Waldo: Do they make an examination?

Dr. McCarthy: A very cursory one.

Dr. Waldo: But a chemist who is not also a doctor has not the training necessary to enable him to prescribe.

Dr. McCarthy: Of course not, and, as I have said, he has no more right to do so than the man in the street.

Dr. Waldo: Then don't you think that the matter should be brought before the Medical Council with a view to an alteration in the law?

Dr. McCarthy: Yes. As things stand at present the chemist who does this sort of thing cannot be punished.

It is not surprising that the jury added to their verdict of accidental death a rider that prescribing by chemists ought to be a punishable offence. We venture to say that the conversation and the rider were equally uncalled for. At Scarborough there has also been an inquest in which a chemist was concerned, he having reluctantly given a gentleman of eighty suffering from the cold day a carminative and antispasmodic. The man died soon after, and an inquest was ordered. The chemist was completely exonerated by the Coroner and jury, but he had to suffer the



odium of imputed illegal action in prescribing. These are cases such as Baron Pollock had in mind when he said in a celebrated trial:

"We have all, I suppose, had occasion to see the great kindness, attention, and unselfish care which is bestowed not only by the medical profession, but also by chemists and druggists, on the poor when they need their assistance. There are few of us, I suppose, who have not upon some occasion had need to resort in cases of emergency to the same sources of assistance, and I am sure we have never found them unwilling to give their assistance when it was needed. . . . Extreme cases might be put upon one side or upon the other. It might be said, What is a man to do in a case of extreme danger or in the case of an accident in the street where life is imperilled? Is no man to put forward the knowledge he possesses for the saving of life or the mitigation of illness in such a case? That, of course, is an observation which may be made, not only with regard to apothecaries or chemists, but with regard to every one of ourselves who might be present upon the occasion and happened to have knowledge of the treatment which might be required."

The charitable spirit of this dictum is rarely exhibited in coroners' courts by medical witnesses, too many of whom regard chemists as anathema, and treat their efforts at alleviating the distress of the poor as interference with medical rights. We do not defend the action of any unregistered persons, whether they be chemists or not, who ostensibly practise as physicians, but we claim protection for the public and chemists for those transactions which were referred to by Baron Pollock, and which take place over the chemist's counter. We regard the case of Mr. Meadley, of Scarborough, as one of the kind; all that was done was for the service of man in an emergency, and it is pitiful that a chemist may not do such things without odium or reproach.

Since the foregoing was written the Government report on unqualified medical practice has been published. Its one-sided character emphasises the necessity for the foregoing remarks. The report is virtually an attack by and on behalf of medical practitioners upon all articles and persons that are supposed to compete with doctors in the treatment of the ailing or the sick. There is in the report a magnificent opportunity for the British Pharmaceutical Conference, which a year ago had a joint conference with the British Medical Association on, *inter alia*, some of the subjects of the report.

### Benzoin.

THE extreme rates which were paid for a parcel of Siam benzoin in the London drug-auctions last week serve to call attention to the fact that very little of this description has been produced within the past three or four years. Taking the official values as declared at Bangkok, the principal port of shipment, we find that from 1906 to 1909 the average annual value of exports was about 1,500l., the quantities not being stated in the reports available. In the year ending March 31, 1909, the exports fell to 940l., and a further diminution would not be surprising when later figures are published. It is interesting to note, however, that the 1908-9 exports were shipped "entirely to the United Kingdom." This is, of course, satisfactory, bearing in mind the fact that France is the principal consumer of the drug, and therefore has still to come to London for the bulk of her requirements. Some sixteen years ago, when France annexed about one-third of Siam, it was thought the benzoin-trade would be diverted from Bangkok to Hanoi; but it would appear that the trade, which, after all, is only small, still remains in the hands of Bangkok exporters. With the introduction of the new French Codex, almost two years ago, it was found that Siam benzoin was alone official, and that is why to-day the demand from that quarter has since become clamant,

the competition of buyers, as witnessed last week, driving up prices to 27l. per cwt. for bold selected almonds and 22l. for pea and bean size. The exclusion of Sumatra benzoin from the Codex has led to a diminished demand for this description from London sources, the chief and practically only outlet in France now being for technical purposes. The United States is in almost a similar position, for in the last edition of the U.S. Pharmacopoeia we read: "The percentage of soluble matter required by the present U.S.P. in benzoin is very high, and if rigidly enforced by the Customs would exclude Sumatra benzoin in all but its very finest varieties." This is equivalent to specifying Siam in all but name, and it is only with difficulty and persuasion that fair grades of Sumatra are allowed entry, and then only when labelled "For technical purposes only." It would have been thought that with this tendency to restrict the use of Sumatra benzoin, stocks would have accumulated and prices decline. This was true to a certain extent when the diminished demand from the Continent was fully reflected in due course, but concurrently with this Sumatra was steadily diminishing her production, rubber requiring all her attention. As illustrating the extent of the diminution, we give the following figures (piculs) showing the exports from Singapore and Penang during the first nine months of 1905 to 1910:

#### Singapore.

	To Great Britain	To Continent of Europe	To United States
1910	571	1,067	—
1909	1,273	3,098	—
1908	556	1,148	139
1907	659	2,967	174
1906	2,439	3,716	244
1905	757	2,023	234

#### Penang.

	To Great Britain	To Continent of Europe	To United States
1910	153	127	—
1909	229	21	—
1908	130	—	—
1907	659	—	—

Taking the above figures into consideration, the advance of from 10s. to 30s. per cwt. which has recently occurred in fair-quality Sumatra is not surprising, added to which the London stock, which is about 400 cases, is an extremely low one, and is for the most part of inferior quality; while of Palembang there is no stock whatever in first-hands. The bulk of the stock of Sumatra for some months past has been acquired by several large holders, who by quietly purchasing the most desirable parcels at intervals and putting them into stock, are now able to take full advantage of the present scarcity by doling out small lots at enhanced prices to necessitous buyers.

### Sale of Spirits and Wines.

"A person holding the off-licence to be taken out by a retailer of spirits may not sell spirits in open vessels, or in England in any quantity less than one reputed quart."

"A person holding the off-licence to be taken out by a retailer of wine may not sell wine in open vessels, or in England or Ireland in any quantity less than one reputed-pint bottle."

THESE provisions of the Finance (1909-10) Act, 1910, are a compromise upon the original proposals. The object in view was to restrict the sale of alcoholic beverages, but incidentally the sale of certain spirituous medicines has been



affected—e.g., Carnrick's beef peptonoids, and some Continental preparations which the Revenue authorities treat as liqueurs. Formerly no restriction was put upon the quantity of these which might be sold, but the new provision prevents less than a reputed quart being sold at one time. The provision as regards wines is as before so far as the quantity is concerned. The Commissioners of Customs and Excise, in reply to a letter addressed to them by the Wine and Spirits Association, have made an important interpretation of the provisions. They state that if a reputed-quart bottle of any one description of spirits is sold, there is nothing to prevent the sale, as part of the same transaction, of a small bottle of another description of spirits and similarly with regard to wine. This will enable wine and spirit merchants to sell a small quantity of spirit, whether a nip of liqueur or a half-bottle of gin or brandy or rum or whisky, provided an ordinary reputed-quart bottle or two half-bottles of any kind of spirit is bought at the same time. The same applies to wine. This will probably not benefit the drug-trade, except possibly wholesalers. We have had a conversation on the matter with Mr. John C. Umney, who, as Chairman of the Chemical Section of the Chamber of Commerce, has been in communication with the Revenue authorities regarding the sale of small quantities of rectified spirit. He informs us that the matter is still under consideration, and an early and favourable decision is expected.

#### Poison-selling Prosecutions.

It has no doubt been observed that licensed vendors of agri-horticultural poisons are particularly careful to enter sales of XL-All insecticide in the poisons-book. This seems to be done under the advice of the maker; but, as a matter of fact, preparations of nicotine are Part II. poisons according to the 1903 Act schedule. From the toxicological point of view this is, of course, an absurdity, which should have been put right before now; but the Pharmaceutical Council seems indisposed to touch the schedule, and its representatives in courts are silent on the point, as is shown by the Winchester case, where the Society's agent who purchased gave a false name and address. The Judge commented severely upon this, and no attempt was made to explain that the poisons-book entry was unnecessary; while, if it is, the sale to an unknown person (as in this case) is illegal. It appears to us from the Judge's remarks that the Law Committee of the Pharmaceutical Council will need to mend its ways. Judge Gye's rebuke is pertinent and severe, and conveys the impression that the Society administers the Acts with partiality. There ought to be no occasion for a judicial expression of opinion like that.

#### Medical Dispensing.

Mr. Richard Winfrey's outspoken remarks regarding medical men's dispensing have received attention in several quarters. "The Lancet" paraphrases that part of Mr. Winfrey's speech which states that "the knowledge of pharmacy possessed by the ordinary medical practitioner is very slight indeed, and medical practitioners should not be allowed to dispense their own medicines under their present qualification," and pleads that under the present conditions it is quite impracticable for every medical practitioner to employ a dispenser. "The Lancet" waits for reasonable suggestions from the joint committee of pharmacists and medical men which is at present considering the subject. Dr. Watson, in the "Bradford Observer Budget," states that Mr. Winfrey is "inaccurate and mischievously unfair" in suggesting that the few lectures on pharmacy and chemistry given to medical students are a mere farce.

This is best answered by referring to what "The Lancet" states regarding the absence of pharmacy from the medical curriculum. Perhaps Dr. Watson is one of the old school, because it is as well to bear in mind that the evils of medical dispensing have been multiplied now that doctors receive so little training in materia medica and pharmacy.

#### Opticians' Critics.

A certain section of medical men who are so fond of criticising opticians are being sharply taught that opticians are not the meek class of persons their critics had imagined. The remarks of the Judge in the recent law-case must have given them food for thought, and another opportunity for reflection is afforded as the result of a letter which appeared recently in the "British Medical Journal." The medical critic complained that some glasses he had ordered for a patient were of poor quality and badly centred, and took the opportunity to add to his letter: "Surely it would be better if the Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers took some care that those holding their diploma could carry out their proper work—namely, to make spectacles correctly—than that they should endeavour to extend their sphere to sight-testing." Colonel Sewell, the Clerk of the Spectacle Makers' Company, thereupon wrote and asked the doctor to supply the name of the optician. Those who understand these matters will not be surprised to hear that the doctor "hedged," which gave the Colonel an opportunity to get in the following rejoinder:

"I cannot understand the attitude of a professional gentleman who criticises the diploma scheme of the Spectacle Makers' Company and at the same time publishes a detailed complaint of the conduct of one of its diploma-holders, while either unwilling or unable to substantiate the statements of fact on which he relies. The object of the gratuitous advice which is given to the Spectacle Makers' Company under these circumstances appears to me very much open to question. The episode may or may not agree with professional ideals, but it certainly does not well represent the traditions of British fair play."

#### The Japanese Tariff.

"The Times" announces that a special commissioner, Mr. Kikiyi Yabe, of the Finance Department, is to visit Europe in order to study the Customs policy of Great Britain and to "furnish explanations to dissipate objections" to the new tariff. Public opinion in Japan, it appears, has been aroused by the agitation on this side, it being contended by publicists that Great Britain, by virtue of the Alliance, should have been approached independently; and several suggestions are put forward with the idea of making the necessary concessions in a conventional tariff with this country on account of her special manufactures. It is difficult to see what relief can be afforded by Mr. Yabe's visit, as he has no plenary powers; but the fact that Japan is willing to investigate the complaints of exporters points to the existence of a feeling in Government circles in that country not inimical to British interests. It now rests with British exporters to formulate instances of distinct hardships in a convincing manner, in order that the Japanese commissioner may see the reasonableness of suggesting some modification which will satisfy both interests.

**NINE MONTHS' TRADE.**—A comparison of the imports and exports (domestic) of the United Kingdom, Germany, United States, and France for the nine months ending September 30 is contained in a White Paper issued by the Board of Trade. The value of the imports of the United Kingdom was 408,871,000*l.*; Germany, 309,334,000*l.*; United States, 244,245,000*l.*; France, 192,548,000*l.*; while that of the exports was as follows: United Kingdom, 318,577,000*l.*; Germany, 267,805,000*l.*; United States, 248,608,000*l.*; and France, 176,054,000*l.*



## B.P. Fats and Waxes.

IN order to show the reasonableness of the factors suggested by Messrs. E. W. Lucas and F. C. J. Bird for the B.P. monographs on fixed oils, fats, and waxes, we compare them in the subjoined tables with the factors given in Squire's "Companion to the British Pharmacopœia." The latter factors are based on analytical work from year to year in the authors' laboratories, which results are collated with the published observations of other analysts:

Substance		Squire's "Companion"	Lucas and Bird
Adeps	M.P.	35° to 45° C.	35° to 41° C.
	Sapon-value	192 to 196.5	192 to 197
	Iodine value	52 to 62	52 to 63
	Free acid	a trace	0.3
Adeps Lanæ...	Refract. index	—	1.4530 to 1.4550
	M.P.	about 40° C.	about 40° C.
	Sp. gr.	about 0.960	0.958 to 0.970
	M.P.	61° to 64° C.	61° to 64° C.
Cera Flava	Acid-value	20.0 to 22	16.7 to 22.3
	Ester-value	63 to 77	69 to 75.7
	Sp. gr.	0.942 to 0.946	0.950 to 0.960
	M.P.	about 48° C.	43° to 50° C.
Cetaceum	Sapon-value	125 to 136	125 to 136
	Iodine-value	practically nil	3 to 4.4
	Sp. gr.	0.915 to 0.920	0.915 to 0.920
	Sapon-value	190.4 to 196.4	188 to 200
Almond Oil	Iodine value	95.3 to 100.3	95 to 100
	Free acid	—	not exceeding 2 p.c.
	Refract. index	—	1.472 to 1.473
	Sp. gr.	0.930 to 0.936	0.930 to 0.940
Linseed Oil	Sapon-value	190 to 195	187 to 195
	Iodine-value	170 to 188	170 to 190
	Free acid	A-value less than 5.	not exceeding 1.5 p.c.
	Refract. index	—	1.4832 to 1.4844
	Congel.-point	-20° C.	not above -20° C.
	Unsap. matter	not more than 2.5 p.c., usually much less	under 1 p.c.
Oleum Morrhuæ	Sp. gr.	0.920 to 0.930	0.920 to 0.930
	Free acid	0.0 to 1.0 p.c.	not exceeding 1 p.c.
	Refract. index	—	1.4800 to 1.4830
	Sapon-value	181.4 to 190.4	179 to 192
Oleum Olivæ	Iodine-value	147.3 to 165.1	155 to 173
	Sp. gr.	0.915 to 0.918	0.915 to 0.918
	Free acid	0.0 to 1.4 p.c.	not exceeding 3.5 p.c.
	Refract. index	—	1.4638 to 1.4713
Oleum Ricini	Sapon-value	189.7 to 198.3	188 to 197
	Iodine-value	81.28 to 83.82	79 to 87
	Sp. gr.	0.960 to 0.968	0.958 to 0.970
	Free acid	1.05 to 3.5 p.c.	not exceeding 2 p.c.
Oleum Theobrom.	Refract. index	—	1.4790 to 1.4805
	Sapon-value	176 to 188	177 to 187
	Iodine-value	85 to 90	83 to 89
	Sp. gr.	about 0.990	0.990 to 0.998
Paraffinum Durum	Sapon-value	188 to 198	188 to 195
	Iodine-value	33 to 37	35.5 to 37.5
	M.P.	31.1° to 33.3° C.	30° to 33° C.
	Sp. gr.	0.820 to 0.940	0.820 to 0.940
Paraffinum Liquid.	M.P.	54.4° to 57.2° C.	54° to 60° C.
	Sp. gr.	0.865 to 0.890	0.860 to 0.885
	Sp. gr.	0.840 to 0.870	0.840 to 0.870
	M.P.	35.5° to 38.9° C.	36° to 42° C.
Paraffinum Molle	M.P.	45° to 50° C.	45° to 50° C.
	Sapon-value	192 to 195	192 to 195
	Iodine-value	33 to 46	33 to 46
	Refract. index at 60° C.	—	1.4491 to 1.4510
Serrum Preparat.	Free acid	A.V.=0.8 to 2	not exceeding 1 p.c.=A.V. 1.98

THE imports of chemicals, drugs, and medicines into Burma during the first six months of 1910 amounted to 40,890l., against 40,300l. for the corresponding period of 1909.

THE SLAUGHTER OF REMEDIES by the Committee on Pharmacy of the American Medical Association will soon reduce practice to serums only, states Dr. L. Watkins, in an editorial article on "Drug Madness v. Serum Insanity," in the "Eclectic Medical Journal" for November. However, he adds, it is our impression that this committee know nothing about medicines, or, if so, they are keeping such knowledge carefully concealed.

## Reviews.

*Pears' Shilling Cyclopædia.* New Edition. General Editor, JAMES BURNLEY, assisted by eight specialist associate editors. 7 in. by 4½ in. Pp. 1022. (London: A. & F. Pears, Ltd.)

A WELL-THUMBED COPY of the 1898 edition of this Cyclopædia lying on a busy man's table, which the reviewer noticed the other day, was the highest compliment to its usefulness. That edition contained nine distinct sections, and we understand that over half a million copies of it were sold. The new edition contains eighteen sections, and 300 pages more than the 1898 edition. Nothing could give a better idea of the contents of the volume than an enumeration of the sections, namely:

Dictionary of the English Language.  
Dictionary of General Information.  
Dictionary of Prominent People (Past and Present).  
Classical Dictionary.  
Office Compendium of Every-day Information.  
Dictionary of the World.  
Atlas of the World.  
Dictionary of Events.  
Dictionary of Gardening.  
Dictionary of Poultry, Pigeons, and Cage-birds.  
Dictionary of Cookery.  
Dictionary of Health.  
Dictionary of Sports and Pastimes.  
Dictionary of the Toilet.  
Baby's First Year.  
Dictionary of Business.  
Dictionary of Photography.  
Ready Reckoner

We have compared the sections in this edition with those in the old, and have read, paragraph by paragraph, the subjects in the "Dictionary of Health" and those in the "Medical Dictionary" of the old edition. Careful revision is apparent in those sections which are repeated, and the medical part is practically re-written, the old subjects being brought up to date and two or three times as many subjects are dealt with. The Cyclopædia is quite reliable throughout, and its compactness, clearness of printing, and remarkable variety of information and illustration make it one of the most valuable desk companions in the English language.

*A Sequel to "Secret Remedies."* By FREDERICK PHILLIPS, B.Sc., F.C.S. 6d. net. (Published by the Author at Southampton.)

THIS is a paper-covered pamphlet of fifty-nine pages, which "has not been 'inspired,' 'subsidised,' or 'suggested' by any interested party, but is an individual effort to probe a little way beneath the surface" of the attack by the British Medical Association on proprietary medicines. The real interest of Mr. Phillips's curious compilation lies in the statements which he has received from the makers of twenty-two medicines regarding the analyses of their articles which appear in "Secret Remedies." Of Stedman's teething-powders we learn that the analysis "omits a remedy of the greatest importance." Not a drop of oils of origanum and spearmint or tincture of capsicum enters into Rice's lymphol, although the analyst said so, and twelve ingredients are in it which the B.M.A. analyst failed to discover. In Beecham's pills "it is possible, and most probable, that there may be about half-a-dozen drugs present which the analyst is unable to discover." Veno's seaweed-tonic does not contain leptandrin, rhubarb, and senna, which were "found" by the analyst; and the makers of Hood's sarsaparilla are unkind enough to say:

"The ingredients referred to by the author of 'Secret Remedies'—namely, sarsaparilla, dandelion, mandrake, dock, pipsissewa, juniper-berries—were obtained from the direction-booklet, and these were not discovered by analysis. Analysis failed to discover uva ursi, blue flag, gentian, guaiac (*sic*), stillingia, which are some other vegetable ingredients in Hood's sarsaparilla."

In others cases the "misses" are equally flagrant; but it is well known among professional men to be impossible to determine by analytical methods the composition of vegetable remedial compounds, so that Mr. Phillips's revelations are not a surprise.



## Unqualified Medical and Surgical Practice.

### A Government Report puts Chemists in the Forefront as Offenders.

THE Privy Council received two years ago the following resolution, passed by the General Medical Council at its November meeting, 1908 :—

"That the General Medical Council, being of opinion that the present Medical Acts do not sufficiently enable 'persons requiring medical aid' 'to distinguish qualified from unqualified practitioners,' and that it is contrary to the interest of the public that medical and surgical practice should be carried on with impunity by persons holding no recognised qualifications, requests the Government to take steps for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the evil effects produced by the unrestricted practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons."

Upon the receipt of this resolution the Lord President of the Council deemed it expedient in the first instance to have recourse to ordinary means of information, and caused letters to be addressed to the Local Government Board, the Scottish Office, and the Irish Government, enclosing copies of the resolution and asking that a circular might be issued to the medical officers of health in each country inviting their opinion as to whether the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons is assuming larger proportions, and as to the effect produced by such practice on the public health. The opinions thus obtained have this week been published by his Majesty's Stationery Office, as a blue book Cd. 5422. It may be obtained through any bookseller, and is published at 4½d. The book begins with a statement on behalf of the Local Government Board of England and Wales; then similar but shorter reports are given for Scotland and Ireland.

The Board's inquiry was whether the practice of medicine and surgery by unqualified persons is assuming larger proportions in different districts and what effects are produced by such practice on the health of the districts. The circular letter was addressed to 1,600 medical officers of health. In many cases these officers wrote to all the general practitioners in the districts or called in the aid of the local division of the British Medical Association or of the local medical society. The net result was that of 217 towns, it appears that in eighty-two unqualified practice in one form or another is stated either to be increasing or to be large in amount; in seventy-five such practice is stated to exist to some extent; in twenty-seven there is reported to be very little; while in only thirty towns it is stated that unqualified practice is entirely non-existent. In regard to the three remaining towns no information is forthcoming. In London, the amount of unqualified practice does not appear to be so great as in provincial towns. In two metropolitan boroughs only is it stated to be increasing; in five there is a large amount; in eleven the practice exists to some extent; while the practice is non-existent or very small in seven. As regards four metropolitan boroughs the extent of the practice is not stated.

The report proceeds to give summaries of the replies from medical officers, and the following is what is said about the practice of medicine and surgery by

#### Chemists in England and Wales.

##### *Extent of Practice.*

Prescribing by chemists is stated to be so common as to be practically universal throughout the country. In the replies received, qualified and unqualified chemists are not always distinguished, but it would seem that the latter prescribe more recklessly than the former, as they obtain no support whatever from medical men.

While in the main they confine their attention to the so-called minor ailments, and advise patients to consult a doctor in the more difficult cases, the evidence shows that a large amount of prescribing in what eventually proves to be disease of a graver character also takes place. This must inevitably be so, as the earlier symptoms of serious disease are very apt to be of an unalarming character. In some places their practice is stated to be so large as to exceed that done by general medical practitioners. They

are resorted to especially by the poor, who, either from poverty, or through lapse of subscriptions to a medical club, or because they consider their ailment unimportant, are unwilling to visit a doctor, and it is common for mothers of the poorer classes to take their babies to the chemist, or in some cases to ask him to prescribe even in their absence. In such cases the treatment appears to be more or less superficial, and the chemist commonly recommends proprietary infant foods, soothing syrups, or teething powders. It is comparatively rarely that a general practitioner sees the child of working-class people until it has been purged and medicated for several days by the prescribing chemist. Skin diseases in children—e.g., ring-worm—are also largely treated by them. They are known to treat in many instances all kinds of eye diseases, and to prescribe spectacles, a branch of work that has increased since the inspection of school children was made compulsory. Hypermetropia is sometimes treated with myopic lenses and astigmatism is treated badly. They are known to prescribe atropine and lead lotion in eye diseases. The treatment of venereal diseases is undertaken by many, and in some cases it is suggested that drugs are obtained from them for the purpose of procuring abortion. It is through chemists, in a great degree, that the sale of proprietary medicines has become so widespread, and the habit of self-drugging so prevalent. Many chemists act as unqualified dentists.

In Wales, and in the West Riding of Yorkshire to a less extent, a special class of work is undertaken by chemists under the name of "Water Casters" or "Water Doctors." It is described as follows: "By diligently touting and advertising himself, a chemist obtains a certain reputation as a 'water doctor.' The Welsh people have a great belief in this form of treatment, and a chemist, once having obtained a reputation as such, can do an immense practice, people for miles round sending him specimens of urine, from which he professes to diagnose their ailments, keeping them under treatment until they are forced to send for medical advice. Patients often suffer greatly by reason of this practice, medical treatment being advised only when the case becomes serious."

##### *Effects on the Public Health.*

Some medical officers of health complain that chemists do not know, or only imperfectly know, the diseases they treat, and that consequently their prescribing is for the most part superficial and directed only to the symptoms. Instances are reported of cases which have been referred to doctors, only in time for them to give a certificate of death. Infectious diseases, such as measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough, diphtheria, and smallpox, are stated to be frequently overlooked by chemists, and some medical officers of health attribute outbreaks of infectious diseases to this cause. Children's skin diseases are wrongly treated, and this sometimes necessitates a prolonged absence from school. The treatment of infants' diseases by chemists is regarded as having some bearing on infant mortality. They are reported to treat infants very largely during the diarrhoeal season. Phthisis and cancer in the early stages are sometimes, through improper treatment, aggravated, and in many cases become too advanced for effectual medical or surgical treatment afterwards.

The report deals similarly with herbalists, bone-setters, dentists, Christian scientists and the like.

#### Chemists in Scotland,

so far as counter-prescribing is concerned, are thus referred to in a part of the report dealing with that country. The Scottish office says:

This is a region of practice where the medical practitioner is frequently able to obtain direct evidence. No doubt the practice is widespread; but it is not all of one grade. When a client asks for a particular drug and further asks for directions as to its use, no druggist would hesitate to give such directions as might be necessary. In many cases, for example, the case of mineral waters, the doses are indicated on the



bottles and all the druggist has to do is to draw attention to the fact if requested. A client may purchase a Seidlitz powder; he may request to be informed as to the best time to take it; he may ask for detailed directions as to the method of preparing it. From such relatively indifferent cases up to the detailed diagnosis of disease and special issuing of drugs, there is every variety of grade. In the reports by the medical officers of health there is no indication whatever as to what is involved by "counter-prescribing by chemists." Neither is there any indication as to specific evil results. Further, there is no indication as to how far medical practitioners themselves either act in association with druggists or themselves conduct a druggist shop. These are obviously matters for further inquiry.

Counter-prescribing by chemists cannot be put on precisely the same footing as bone-setting, because in certain specific respects the druggists are "qualified persons" and the limits of legitimate dispensing are extremely difficult to fix. These facts probably account for the absence of any definite opinions that evil results follow counter-prescribing.

No figures are given for Scotland. As to

### Chemists in Ireland.

the report states that "chemists are consulted extensively and prescribe for patients." No other epitome is given, but the following are examples of the answers from local officers:

**ABBEYLEIX.**—Pharmaceutical chemists do a good deal of minor surgery and counter prescribing in two dispensary districts.

**ANTRIM.**—Chemists are consulted and prescribe and supply their own preparations, and also engage in dentistry and injure the pockets of their customers rather than their health.

**ARMAGH.**—An extensive practice is carried on by chemists, their assistants and apprentices, with decidedly injurious results.

**BALLYSHANNON.**—Chemists prescribe medicine, extract teeth, and put in artificial ones and prescribe and supply specatales. The spectacle quack is doing a great deal of harm.

**BAWNBOY.**—Prescribing is practised to a slight extent by registered druggists.

**BELFAST.**—Counter prescribing by chemists reported, also the practice of unqualified dentists and a herbalist.

**CASTLEBAR.**—Chemists prescribe for patients, and exhaust the category of proprietary medicines before a qualified medical man is employed.

**NORTH DUBLIN.**—Chemists, druggists, and their assistants prescribe for all sorts of diseases, with decidedly injurious results. There is an increasing tendency on the part of the public to "self-medication" as a result of the introduction of the tabloid system.

**SOUTH DUBLIN.**—Chemists prescribe to a large extent.

**LONDONDERRY.**—Chemists prescribe for patients and sell proprietary medicines.

**MOHILL.**—Chemists and druggists sell all varieties of drugs, and prescribe, compound, and supply medicines.

**MOUNTMELICK.**—Chemists prescribe and the results are seldom to the advantage of the patients.

Turning once more to the part of the report dealing with England and Wales, we find the following subjects treated seriatim:

Proprietary medicines—(a) extent of use of, and (b) effects upon public health. (These (a) and (b) are the leading questions in all cases.)

Sale of abortifacients and practice of abortionists.

Unqualified practice in treatment of venereal diseases.

Treatment of eye-diseases.

Unqualified practice in relation to (1) infectious diseases, (2) cancer, and (3) consumption.

Electricians, first-aid associations, itinerant quacks, specialists, unqualified [medical] assistants, hydropathic establishments, and domestic remedies are also dealt with. The following is what is said on the last topic:

"Certain" cures are sometimes kept in a family and handed down, and such domestic remedies are much believed in. "In nearly every village there is some person who has some celebrated prescription, which has been given them by their 'fore-elders,' for making 'cure-all' ointments and liniments, and these secret remedies have a fair sale, and escape stamp-duty." Some well-known proprietary medicines claim to have originated in this way.

Old Women and Witchcraft are the last subjects in the English report. Then follow specimens of advertisements of unqualified practitioners, and an appendix summarising the reports from towns, beginning with Aberdare and

ending with York. This occupies twenty-three octavo pages.

### Proprietary Medicines.

We quote the more important paragraphs which occur under this heading:

#### Extent of Use of Proprietary Medicines.

Not only are they largely purchased by the poorer classes, and consumed in enormous quantities, but the well-to-do have recourse to them in a large measure. It is stated that chemists recommend proprietary medicines very extensively, and the large quantities of these proprietary drugs that have been placed upon the market during recent years have materially aided them in acting as unqualified practitioners. They are also sold by grocers and at the stores of co-operative societies, and one medical officer of health says that almost every little sweetshop in his district sells headache-powders.

One or two medical officers of health have alleged that the revenue label affixed to proprietary medicines is responsible for the deception of many people as to the value of their contents. The facility with which proprietary medicines can be obtained and indiscriminately used by the public is strongly condemned. Many of them contain powerful poisons, and preparations of such drugs as strychnia and digitalis are readily obtainable. Proprietary infant foods are stated to be much more used than formerly. Chemists are said to recommend them extensively. It is stated that some of these foods tend to produce inanition and scurvy. One medical officer of health reports a case of an inquest upon a child who had been fed with some proprietary food recommended by a chemist. Examination of this so-called "patent food" revealed that it consisted of the dirtiest and most common kind of flour. The chemist was cautioned, and promised to desist from selling the food.

#### Effects upon Public Health.

In some cases their effect is only indirect, resulting in loss of time during which the disease, not being beneficially affected by the medicine, develops, complications often being set up, so that when finally the patient is driven to seek skilled medical advice, the disease is in so advanced a stage as to have become in some cases incurable. This is the case with incipient phthisis and malignant diseases. The former is often treated with a cough composition which does not touch the basis of the disease.

Another effect of the use of proprietary medicines is shown in the enormous amount of self-drugging practised, which is rendered so easy by the ready access which everyone may have to all kinds of drugs, in tabloid, liquid, or pillule form. This is a habit which is stated to have enormously increased during the past few years. Proprietary medicines are stated by one medical officer of health to be responsible for many minor ailments, and perhaps serious illnesses.

Proprietary medicines and powders are often given to infants and young children, and this practice is strongly condemned as harmful. Cough mixtures, soothing syrups, and teething powders, administered to infants, etc., for quieting purposes, and often containing opium, are particularly mentioned.

The following are some of the suggestions made by medical officers of health as to proprietary medicines and infant foods:

1. The composition of all advertised remedies should be stated.
2. Their prescription and analysis should be determined by Government analysis, at the vendor's expense.
3. The sale of headache powders and suchlike drugs should be prohibited.
4. The sale of infants' foods should be regulated.

In contrast with the opinions deduced by the English Local Government Board from medical officers' statements, the report from Scotland is remarkable. It says:

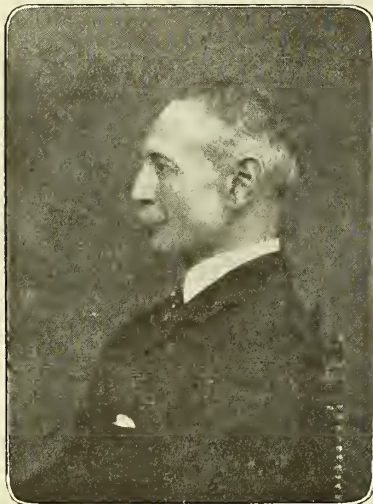
Apart from the sale of proprietary medicines by druggists, some references are made to special vendors of proprietary medicines. Here, also, the numbers reported are small. This is no doubt accounted for by the fact that proprietary medicines are to be obtained from qualified druggists. Probably, also, the free advertising of all forms of proprietary medicine reduces the attractions of proprietary medicine vending as a business.

We have used the word "remarkable" because it is apparent from the Scots reports that the strong antipathy to chemists and everything else outside the registered ranks of medicine, so conspicuous in the England and Wales reports, scarcely exists in Scotland, where physicians and pharmacists live together more amicably. The reason for this may be that doctors write prescriptions and chemists dispense them.



## General Medical Council.

THE autumn meeting commenced at the premises of the Council, 299 Oxford Street, London, W., on Tuesday, November 22, this being a week earlier than usual. Sir Donald MacAlister, K.C.B. (President), was in the chair. The roll-call was not answered by Sir John Tuke, and illness accounted for the absence of Dr. Cocking, and Professor Thompson is detained by functions in Oxford. Sir Isambard Owen, M.D., D.C.L., M.A., F.R.C.P., was introduced



SIR ISAMBARD OWEN.

by Dr. Norman Moore as the representative of the new University of Bristol, of which he is Vice-Chancellor. Sir David McVail, "one of our oldest and most assiduous members," as the President said in conveying to him the congratulations of his colleagues on his new distinction of knighthood, is the senior member, none of those who sat with him when he was appointed nearly a quarter of a century ago being now on the Council. Sir David, however, is far from being the "father" of the Council in point of age. A peerage has been conferred on the Right Hon. Sir Walter Foster, one of the three direct representatives of England and Wales from 1887-97. The President referred to the death last summer of Dr. Atthill and of Dr. Payne (representative of the University of Oxford for five years), who passed away a few days ago.

### ADDRESS FROM THE CHAIR.

The President stated in his address that the Parliamentary paper setting forth the results of the Local Government Board's inquiries concerning the prevalence and the effects on public health of unqualified medical practice will probably be issued before the end of the week, and that it is desirable that the conditions disclosed should be subjected to the fullest public discussion, so that the Council at its next meeting may be in a position to consider judiciously what steps should be taken for their amelioration. Progress had also to be reported with regard to the question of restricting the administration of anaesthetics by unqualified persons. The draft of a memorandum and Bill submitted to the Lord President had been transmitted to the Council for its observations, and the special committee appointed to deal with it will report to the Council during the session. An Act has been passed in Italy conceding unrestricted practice (hitherto limited to foreign residents) to British practitioners in that country, a gratifying outcome of the reciprocity granted to Italy nine years ago. An important memorial, the President further said, concerned with the advancement of tropical medicine and hygiene, supported by a communication from the Colonial Office and signed by a large number of influential persons, would be laid before the Council. The subject has assumed a high significance of late years, both at home and abroad, in

relation to the protection of health and life in many parts of the Empire, and it was urged that the Medical Act, which gives the Council power to determine what diplomas deserve registration, should be amended so as to include the certificates for proficiency in tropical medicine which are issued by some of the licensing bodies. Should the Council favour the suggestion, a proposal to make the desired amendment could be laid before Parliament at an early date. At the suggestion of the Local Government Board, the Pharmacopœia Committee appointed its Secretary, Dr. Tirard, to attend an international conference, held in Paris during the summer. The members of the Conference included delegates from a large number of Governments, and its purpose was to arrive, if possible, at a common understanding regarding methods and standards on questions relating to the analysis of food and drugs. Dr. Tirard has presented a full report of the proceedings, which will be communicated to the Council by the Pharmacopœia Committee. The President also stated that the Education Committee has in hand a report on the teaching of chemistry, physics, and biology at institutions other than medical schools, and the relation of such teaching to the medical curriculum. The question of taking further steps towards raising the standard of preliminary examinations in general education has also been occupying the attention of the Committee.

Sir Donald was thanked for his address, and formal business was proceeded with.

### EXTRA DIPLOMAS.

Dr. Norman Walker moved: "That it be remitted to the Public Health Committee to consider and report whether any, and if so what, changes are called for in the regulations for the diploma in public health." This was seconded by Sir John Moore, and carried without discussion.

The Executive Committee submitted communications and a memorial in regard to the registration of diplomas in tropical medicine, with the recommendations:

- (i) That the Lord President be informed that the Council is prepared to undertake the duty, should Parliament think fit to amend the Medical Act in the sense proposed; and
- (ii) That in the meantime copies of the memorial be forwarded to the licensing bodies concerned for their information, with the request that any observations they may have to offer may be communicated to the Executive Committee before its meeting in February next.

The President moved that the recommendations be adopted. The memorial would require careful consideration; the suggestion involved a new duty for the Council, but if it was imposed by Parliament he thought they should not refuse to undertake it. The recommendations were agreed to, seconded by Sir Thomas Fraser. The Council then went into camera on a report regarding erasures from and restorations to the Register, and on resuming the President announced that the Registrar had been directed to restore to the "Medical Register" the names of William Shaw, Percival Humble Watson, and Christopher Richard Kempster, and to the "Dentists' Register" the name of Arthur Oglesby.

Dr. Adye-Curran was to have moved a resolution regarding the publication of the "Students' Registers," which he contended was illegal, but the President referred him to an opinion on the subject which had been given by Mr. Muir Mackenzie in 1900, from which it was clear that although the Council was under no statutory obligation to publish a "Students' Register," it was within its power to do so if it thought fit. Dr. Adye-Curran did not move his resolution.

### PENAL BUSINESS

commenced on Wednesday with the case of Sydney Clark, registered as of Tonopah, Nevada, U.S.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., who was charged as follows:

"That you abused your position as a medical man by committing adultery and eloping with a Mrs. Bentley, whom you had been attending professionally, of which adultery you were found guilty by the decree of the Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Division (Divorce) of the High Court of Justice dated January 24, 1910, in the case of Clark v. Clark, in which you were the respondent. And that in relation thereto you have been guilty of infamous conduct in a professional respect."



Mr. Clark did not attend in answer, nor was he represented by counsel or solicitor. After consideration *in camera* the President announced that the facts alleged in the notice of inquiry against Dr. Clark had not been proved to the satisfaction of the Council.

James Dalziel, registered as of Auckland, New Zealand, L.R.C.P., L.R.F.P.S., summoned before the Council on the charge that he unlawfully used an instrument or other means with intent thereby to procure the miscarriage of a patient, of which offence he was on August 14, 1907, convicted at Auckland, New Zealand, and sentenced to four years' imprisonment. He did not appear, and his name was struck off the Register.

Though the first two cases were wiped off within an hour, the next one occupied the Council some four hours. In it George Grey Wilson, registered as of 23 Duncan Terrace, Islington, N., and having the Scots triple qualification, was charged with committing adultery with a Mrs. Moore, a patient, of which adultery he was found guilty in the Divorce Court on March 15, 1910, in the case of Moore v. Moore and Wilson, in which he was the co-respondent.

Mr. Moore was unavoidably absent. The case for the prosecution was conducted by the Council's Solicitor, Mr. Fordham appearing for the defence. The respondent was ship's doctor on board a vessel going out to India, among the passengers being Mr. and Mrs. Moore. A number of witnesses were called for the defence, among them Mrs. Moore and Dr. Wilson. Mr. Fordham contended that Mrs. Moore did not stand in the relation of a patient; to extend the relation of doctor and patient to a ship's doctor and everyone who happened to be on board ship would be to stretch it in a dangerous way. He also urged the inconsistency of and the animus shown by the prosecution, and further stated that the impropriety, which was admitted, did not take place on board ship, but afterwards. Standing orders were suspended to hear the finish of the case. Mr. Fordham concluded his speech at 6.30, and the Council went into *camera*, but after a short time they decided to adjourn till next day, when, after an hour's consideration, Dr. Wilson was found guilty and his name was ordered to be erased from the Register.

## Chemical Society.

A MEETING was held at Burlington House, London, W., on Thursday, November 17, the chair being taken by Professor H. B. Dixon, F.R.S. Before proceeding to the reading of scientific communications the President called the attention of the Fellows to a set of five photographs of the

EMINENT FRENCH CHEMIST CHEVREUL, taken in his one hundredth year, which had been presented to the Society by Sir Henry Roscoe. He mentioned that Chevreul could not be induced to sit for his photograph in the ordinary way, but was prevailed on to visit the studio and sign his name in the visitors' album, and these photographs were taken surreptitiously during this operation.\*—A letter from the Board of Trade asking for the assistance of the Society in sending scientific exhibits to the Chemical Section of the forthcoming Turin Exhibition was laid on the table for perusal. Dr. Le Sueur read the first paper, on the preparation of

### AMINES FROM CARBOXYLIC ACIDS.

The process consists in brominating the acid in the  $\alpha$ -position and treating the bromo-acid with the amine. In this way the amine residue is introduced, and, on heating the product, the carboxyl group is split off, yielding a secondary amine. Hepta-, penta-, and tri-decylanilines were prepared in this fashion, each from the next higher homologous acid. The advantages of the process lie in its simplicity, the formation of one product only, and in the cheapness of the raw materials. A paper on

### THE RUSTING OF IRON,

by Messrs. Lambert and Thomson, was next taken. The authors have prepared pure oxygen, pure water, and pure

\* We published a photograph of Chevreul in the *C. & D.*, August 21, 1886, at the time when a series of *fêtes* in honour of his hundredth birthday was being held.

iron, and allowed these three substances to remain in contact in a specially devised apparatus, designed to exclude all impurities, for months at a time, and find that in these circumstances no rusting occurs. If, however, iron containing only a trace of impurity is left under like conditions in contact with pure oxygen and pure water, rusting invariably occurs, whence they conclude that the view first brought forward by Crum-Brown, and lately re-asserted by Moody, that carbon dioxide is an essential factor in the rusting of iron, is untenable. As usual in papers on this subject, a brisk discussion ensued, in which the President, Sir William Ramsay, Dr. Armstrong, and others took part. Dr. Armstrong contended that the precautions taken were insufficient to exclude carbon dioxide entirely, and that in any case nobody expected that pure iron would rust. Mr. Lambert, in his reply, "brought down the house" by naively referring to the last speaker (Dr. Armstrong) as a "gentleman whose name he did not know." The President closed the discussion by congratulating the authors in having assisted Nature to fulfil one of Dr. Armstrong's prophecies—viz., that pure iron would not rust.

The last paper read was by Dr. Morgan and Miss Micklethwait on "The Diazo-derivatives of 2:7-Naphthylene-diamine," being a further contribution to the study of colour and constitution in the diazonium series.

## Poisoning Cases.

FOUR fatalities from poisoning, including two misadventures, have been reported since our last issue.

**Carbolic Acid.**—At Belfast, Grace Farnon, an old-age pensioner, drank carbolic acid in mistake for ale, and expired a few hours later.

**Laudanum** caused the accidental death of William Evans, lay clerk at St. Asaph Cathedral, who was addicted to the habit of taking laudanum. The jury, in returning a verdict of death from misadventure, inquired of the Coroner whether there was no limit to the quantity of laudanum which could be sold to an ordinary individual. They expressed the opinion that there should be some restrictions placed on its sale. The Coroner replied that he was afraid such a course would not be practicable, as laudanum was not like other poisons.—A Blackburn brewery-cavasser named Jephtha Greenhalgh poisoned himself with laudanum while temporarily of unsound mind.

**Potassium Cyanide.**—The suicidal death at Hull of Minnie Victoria Snowden (25), shop-assistant, was due to potassium cyanide. The poison was purchased for her by a young man named George Kennett (with whom she had been keeping company) at Milburns, Ltd., 53 Prospect Street. Deceased told him that she required it for etching purposes. Kennett, who was a regular customer at the shop, signed the poisons-register.

**Salt of Lemon.**—An unknown woman killed herself at Preston by taking this poison. At the inquest James Clark, chemist's assistant, stated that there were 55 grains of the poison in the pennyworth supplied to deceased. The packet was labelled "Poison" in the usual manner.

## New Books.

Ewell, A. W. *Text-book of Physical Chemistry, Theory and Practice*. 162 illus.  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ . Pp. 370. (J. & A. Churchill.) [The work gives a concise epitome of the theory of physical chemistry, with numerous useful experiments thereon. A knowledge of the calculus is assumed in many of the theoretical discussions, but the paraphrasing allows omission of these portions to readers who are unfamiliar with it. The book covers a wider range than that usual in a work of this kind—for instance, it deals with the theory and practice of the refractometer, besides saccharimetry. Its up-to-date tone is indicated by the fact that the apparatus used in the liquefaction of helium is included.]

McCluney, R. K. *Conduction of Electricity through Gases and Radio-Activity*. 78 illus.  $8\frac{3}{4} \times 5\frac{3}{4}$ . Pp. 245. 7s. 6d. net. (J. & A. Churchill.) [This text-book, with experiments, presumes a good knowledge of experimental physics and mathematics, while for the experiments access to a well-fitted physical laboratory is required. The work is well suited to college students who wish to have detailed and precise information regarding the delicate apparatus and manipulation necessary to conduct experiments with ionised gases and on radio-activity. The concise instructions give the principles of the theories involved, and simple clear diagrams explain essential points.]



## Winter Session.

### Association Presidents.

MR. FREDERICK WILLIAM HORNBY, the new President of the Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association, has had a wide and varied experience of



MR. F. W. HORNBY.

English pharmacy. He was apprenticed at Hampstead, London, N.W., with Mr. W. A. Sinclair, from thence proceeding to Mr. H. G. Hunt, of Walbrook, London, E.C., for two years' City experience. At the end of that period he studied for the Minor under the late Mr. Watson Will. After taking the Minor in July 1896 he joined Messrs. John Bell & Co., where he remained for over a year before taking the Major course at the Pharmaceutical Society's School of Pharmacy. The Major being successfully negotiated, he became assistant to Messrs. Wing, Aplin & Co., of Chislehurst, migrating thence to Bournemouth to enter the employ of Mr. G. E. Bridge. He left the latter ten years ago on purchasing the business of the late Mr. S. P. Yates at 132a Christchurch Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth. Mr. Hornby has been a member of the Association for a long time, and has done good on its Formulary Committee.

**Bournemouth Pharmaceutical Association.**—The meeting was held at the Gervis Hall Restaurant on November 18, Mr. Francis Rose in the chair. The officers elected for the ensuing year were: *President*, Mr. F. W. Hornby; *Secretary*, Mr. W. A. Bingham; *Treasurer*, Mr. C. J. Reid; *Committee*, Messrs. Bilson, Haynes, Scampton, and A. Worth. Votes of thanks were accorded the President and retiring officers.

**Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association.**—A second meeting was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on November 16, Mr. Edward J. Brown (President) in the chair. A paper on "Ions" was submitted by Mr. Henry Stout. Mr. A. G. Collyer read a communication on "The Manufacture of Clinical Thermometers," and Mr. G. Mackie spoke on the poison schedule. The discussion on the last paper was adjourned till the next meeting.

**Harrogate Pharmaceutical Association.**—The first meeting of the session was held at the Salisbury Hotel on November 18, when the following members assembled to greet the new President, Mr. C. E. J. Eynon: Messrs. Atkinson, Fenn, Weston, Mote, Sol Taylor, Mitchell, Rogers, Pattison, Lawrence, Wood, Smeddles, McMillan, and Southwell (Hon. Secretary). Mr. Eynon, in his presidential address, as one of the founders of the Association and its first President, reviewed the progress which it has made since its foundation, both from a business and a social point of view. During the long and interesting address it was shown that many advantages had resulted from the meetings of the Association, which had acquired a reputation in the West Riding for sociability and good-fellowship. The members' endeavour should be to maintain that reputation. A new member, Mr. Simpson, was elected and accorded a hearty welcome. At the conclusion of other business, the meeting resolved itself into a smoking-concert, during which songs, recitations, etc., were given by Messrs. Weston, Sol Taylor, Mote, Rogers, Atkinson, and Illingworth. Mr. G. E. Arnold acted as accompanist. A collection on behalf of the Benevolent Fund realised, together with the money raised during the recess, 27. 10s.

**Scarborough Association of Pharmacists.**—The annual meeting of this Association was held on November 17 at the residence of Mr. W. A. Senior, 4 Castle Road. The members present were: The Vice-President (Mr. G. Whitfield), Messrs. E. R. Cross, E. M. Chanman, J. W. Chapman, W. R. Eyre, R. M. Hill, H. E. Hunt, W. H. Newton, Kelsey, T. W. Longdin, H. B. Senior, G. H. Meadley, and W. A. Senior (Hon. Secretary). Mr. G. Whitfield occupied the chair. Mr. W. A. Senior read the financial report, which showed a larger credit balance than the Association has ever had before. The office-bearers for the ensuing year were then elected as follows: *President*, Mr. W. A. Senior; *Vice-President*, Mr. E. Parker; *Committee*, Messrs. G. Whitfield,

T. W. Longdin, H. E. Hunt, and W. H. Newton; *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*, Geo. H. Meadley, Gladstone Road. The usual vote of thanks to the retiring President was postponed until his return from abroad; but a vote of thanks was accorded to the retiring Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. W. A. Senior, who then took the chair. It was decided to have a whist-drive and dance, but the date was left open. The annual dinner was fixed for the last Thursday evening in January. A letter from the pharmacists of Burton-on-Trent on *Pharmaceutical Education* and the division of the Minor examination was read and discussed. The meeting was in favour of the division of the Minor examination, providing that there was no lowering of the standard of the Qualifying examination.

**Portsmouth Pharmacists' Association.**—The members met on Wednesday afternoon, November 23, to consider the advisability of *altering the Minor examination*, and also the proposed introduction of a curriculum. Mr. T. A. White (President) was in the chair. Mr. W. R. Atterbury opened the discussion. He was in favour of the curriculum, but said at least three years' notice should be given of its introduction. Mr. R. Trist asked, What constitutes a curriculum? They should have something definite in mind before coming to a decision. Mr. Donaldson read an "open letter" on the subject, in which he compared the respective expenses and remunerations of a young pharmacist and a bank-clerk. The argument, besides being witty, made the case look very bad for the pharmacist. Mr. Sparrow expressed the view that the status of pharmacy was raised, not by examinations, but by pharmacists themselves. The President thought that to enforce a curriculum it would be necessary for the Society to have control over every deed of apprenticeship. With ever-increasing competition and companies to fight, he could not recommend any system which would add further costs to parents putting their sons to the business. The following propositions were adopted:

1. That this Association does not favour increasing the stringency of the Minor, but considers that it should be divided into two parts, practical and theoretical.
2. That it is in favour of a curriculum.

It was decided to hold the annual whist-drive in January. Mr. A. B. Sparrow promised to read a paper on trade topics at the next meeting.

**Chemists' Assistants' Association.**—The President, Mr. H. Grange, presided over a fair attendance of members at the meeting held at 73 Newman Street, London, W., on November 17. Mr. Horace Finnemore, B.Sc., Ph.C., supplied the topic for the evening by a discourse "On the Education of the Pharmacist." Mr. Finnemore first laid down the postulate that some sort of training is necessary for the pharmacist, although it does not matter by whom it is conducted. It follows, therefore, that some educational test must be undergone, so that examination is a necessity. He was pleased to see in connection with the discussion in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* on "Is the Minor Worth the Trouble?" that the general consensus of opinion is in the affirmative. In his opinion the unqualified man is indisputably in an inferior position. Examination statistics followed, from which the speaker said either of two considerations may be deduced—the Minor is too high for the capacity of the average candidate (which he did not believe), or the examinee shows a deplorable lack of capability to cope with the difficulties of the examination. The Minor is the minimum test for those to be entitled to handle some of the most deadly destructive agents. Many who demand the division of the Minor fail to realise the inevitable decrease in the standards thereby entailed. From his own experience in teaching medical students, too much subdivision of an examination resulted in cramming becoming a fine art. The educational equipment of those entering for the Minor has thus to be raised by a carefully considered curriculum, which has got to come in every profession. Employers should give their apprentices time for study and recreation. The apprentice should be allowed to attend at the local technical school as a matter of course. Registration of apprentices should be the special care of the Pharmaceutical Society, and three or four years should elapse between registration and examination. Then there would be an intermediate examination in botany, chemistry, and elementary physics, which form the three foundations for *materia medica* and pharmacy, which would be left for the Final Qualifying examination. A curriculum course (of nine months' duration suggested) would complete the candidate's tuition between the two examinations. With men who had gone through such training we should have a better class of Minor men than the present one. The Major examination he would keep on, and to enhance the attraction of the diploma allow the "Fellowship" of the Pharmaceutical Society to go with it. Also some of the subjects for the Major should be left out—*e.g.*, physics, since essential mathematical knowledge is lacking—while botany should not



be compulsory. Bacteriology and history of materia medica might be included.—A general discussion ensued, in which the chief point raised was one by the President that a written paper should replace oral examination, while several speakers emphasised the necessity of proper training during apprenticeship. Mr. Finmore, in replying, pointed out that many examiners felt that they could get a better idea as to the fitness of a candidate by means of an oral rather than a written examination.—A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Finmore for his address.

#### Dundee Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held on November 19 at Mather's Hotel, Mr. Adamson presiding. Mr. J. C. Jolly read a paper on

##### PILL-COATING.

He said the most common coating is pearl coating, which has always been more or less of a manufacturer's art. Yet one can coat a pill quite elegantly without the aid of any special apparatus at the dispensing-counter.

The coating of French chalk should be hard enough to withstand rough usage, but care must be taken not to make the coating insoluble. As with silver coating, the whole secret of successful pill-coating lies with the moistening medium. The author has found the following give the best results:

Gum. acacie ...	...	...	gr. XL.
Gum. tragac.	...	...	gr. X.
Ol. theobrom.	...	...	gr. XL.
Spt. chlorof.	...	...	3ij.
Aq. ad...	...	...	3j.

The apparatus necessary is a flat round tin box, similar to a ziv. ointment-tin, and a flat earthenware pot, with a pill-finisher handy for emergencies. Place a quantity of French chalk in the tin and warm it slightly. Moisten the pills with the theobrom emulsion between the palms of the hands, and then transfer to the chalk. Rotate slowly, but evenly, for about five minutes, then transfer to the pot for polishing purposes. Slightly grease the pot with white wax. It may be necessary to give two or three coats of chalk, but the pills only require to be polished once. Should the coating be uneven, transfer to a pill-machine, and roll lightly with a warm pill-finisher. Allow fifteen minutes to elapse between the coatings. A batch of pills can be done within one hour, with about twenty minutes' work. In chocolate coating the author found a mixture of equal parts of a soluble chocolate-powder and chalk the best. The chocolate-powder is mixed with a little water, and the chalk rubbed in, the mixture passed through a fine sieve, and air-dried. The coating is applied in the same manner as French chalk.

#### Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Association.

THERE was an excellent attendance of members to discuss tea and

##### THE SHOPS (No. 2) BILL

on November 17, Mr. James Lennox (President) being in the chair. The President called on Mr. J. H. Hart to explain the Bill. From the discussion which followed it was evident that the opinion was that chemists are either too much included or too little, and that the Bill is going to impose restrictions without reducing actual working and waiting hours. Mr. Laing caused some diversion by the way he described the hole chemists have been digging for themselves. Mr. J. A. Russell (Greenock) characterised the Bill as an honest attempt to deal with a difficult question, and said it was a charter of freedom to thousands of shop-assistants, designed for assistants as a whole and not merely chemists' assistants. The effect of restricting the shopping-hours in other retail businesses would enable the chemist to close earlier. Mr. Mackellar referred to the unfair competition of the one-man shop, and also said that if hours are restricted doctors will be more inclined to be their own dispensers. Mr. J. P. Gilmour did not want any definition of what a medicine is—the meaning is quite clear. While he objected to legislation telling him when he should close his shop, he approved of the Bill so far as it protects assistants. Mr. Moir complained of the indefiniteness of the Bill. Chemists are included and then excluded. They

are all anxious for earlier closing, but he did not think this Bill would affect their working-hours very much. The President said he wished to focus the discussion in order that useful amendments might be made so as to make the Bill more applicable to pharmacy. He was of opinion this is an opportunity chemists should not let slip of improving the condition of pharmacy, because the more attractive they could make their calling, the better type of man would be drawn to their ranks. Mr. Laing was anxious to see an amendment to include, instead of exclude, chemists. Mr. Sinclair hoped to see conditions of chemists' assistants' hours better defined, and that these assistants should be more definitely included. Mr. Riddell said that if chemists are included it would be better for masters as well as assistants. He expressed the opinion that chemists should take some action to obtain shorter hours. It was eventually decided to defer discussion for the present.

#### North Staffs Chemists' Association.

At the monthly meeting, held at the Roebuck Hotel, Stoke-on-Trent, on November 17, the President, Mr. Weston Poole, occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. T. Cornwell (Hanley), Shelton, E. Mellor (Uttoxeter), E. Griffiths (Kingsgrove), G. Cope (Leek), W. D. Edge (Wolstanton), W. Tipper, W. H. Kemp, Fenton, G. Brown (Hanley), and T. Bentley (Hon. Secretary).

A letter from Mr. F. J. Gibson expressing his willingness to visit the Association and talk over matters relating to the work of the Pharmaceutical Society and local Associations. The President and Secretary were deputed to make the necessary arrangements. A communication from the Croydon Association *re* the Pharmaceutical Society's local Association Committee was left over for discussion at this meeting.

The Shops (No. 2) Bill was also included in the agenda, but its consideration was abandoned for the present in view of the political situation. Mr. E. Griffiths, of the North Stafford School of Chemistry and Pharmacy, then gave an address entitled

##### "THE MINOR EXAMINATION, PRESENT AND FUTURE."

Two questions were asked in the first place: (1) Are the requirements of the Board of Examiners, as enunciated in the official syllabus, too stringent for the present-day class of student? (2) Are the conditions under which apprentices labour unsuited to the acquisition of the necessary knowledge requisite for the easy and successful negotiation of the Qualifying examination of to-day? The examination, according to his students, is not too stiff, and, in the speaker's opinion, to omit any of the subjects in the present syllabus would be fatal to perfect education on matters pharmaceutical. Regarding the second query, the Pharmaceutical Council would do a vast deal of good if, in their provisions for a modified curriculum, clauses had to be inserted in the articles of apprenticeship insisting upon certain specified times being allowed to students. This need not necessarily amount to more than an extra half-day a week addition to the usual weekly half-holiday, and the additional time allowed would not press hardly upon any principal, since the apprentice would, by reason of the knowledge he had gained, be equal during his third year to the recently qualified assistant of to-day. Further, to put it bluntly, local associations should do something for the apprentices of its members. Statistics from the reports of the Government visitors provided instructive figures, which had led him to formulate a

##### SUGGESTED CURRICULUM,

the details of which are summarised in the paragraphs below:

*Stage I.*—The candidate, who would have taken his Preliminary examination previous to apprenticeship, would be eligible for the first portion of his written examination in botany and materia medica. Specimens should be provided and the candidate expected to answer simple questions.

*Stage II.*—At the age of nineteen the student could enter for a second examination in theoretical pharmacy (including nosology), prescription-reading, and knowledge of the British Pharmacopœia—subjects worked at during the second year.



*Stage III.* of his curriculum, taken when the candidate has attained the age of twenty, would require an examination in the practical and theoretical chemistry studied during the third year.

*Stage IV.*, which ends with the Final examination, should be in practical pharmacy, to be taken when the candidate has attained the age of twenty-one.

Mr. Griffiths further suggested that the examinations in Stages I. and II. should be held at local centres under examiners appointed by the Pharmaceutical Society from the local Chemists' Associations. For Stage III. the examination centres should be at university towns, but a centre should be created on petition of a sufficient number of candidates. The Society should also control the third examination, but the local association should be empowered to have representatives on the Board of Examiners, which should consist of equal numbers of professors of chemistry and pharmaceutical chemists. He suggested that B.P. gravimetric and gasimetric operations, preparation of simple B.P. salts, and analysis of a mixture of at least two B.P. chemicals, should be included in the syllabus for this stage, four and a-half hours being the minimum time allowed for the practical work. The final examination, which would also be held in university towns, should be under the direct control of retail pharmacists, the names of examiners being submitted by the local associations. This part of the examination would need entire revision, and he would suggest a minimum of five hours' practical work, during which the candidate should be given a score of prescriptions, and marks awarded on time, method, general accuracy, finish of the products, and examiner's impressions of the candidates. Successful candidates should be classed as "Honours" or "Pass," so that those attaining the higher standard would be sought after by proprietors of high-class dispensing businesses.

A discussion followed, in which Mr. Mellor and Mr. Cornwell agreed that the stringency of the Minor examination should not be relaxed. Messrs. Tipper, Kent, Edge, Cope, and the Chairman also spoke, and Mr. Griffiths replied.

### Liverpool Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held in the Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, on Thursday, November 17, Mr. Wokes presiding over a good attendance, including three ladies. Mr. Marsden showed samples of false buchu.—Mr. Barr read a letter of thanks from Mr. Bremridge for the 19l. raised for the Benevolent Fund by the recent joint concert.—Mr. Wokes asked whether water should be used to dissolve resorcin before mixing it into ointments, and varying opinions were expressed on the matter.—Mr. Harold Wyatt then read a paper entitled *Notes on Dispensing*, in which he dealt with the following subjects:

#### SERUM IN MIXTURES.

The oral administration of sera and vaccines is frequently resorted to nowadays, and when prescribed in mixture form some menstruum of a preservative nature must be used, or the preparation will in a short time become entirely changed. Glycerin, alcohol, and chloroform-water are the three best adapted to the purpose, but in the case of alcohol or an alcoholic tincture not more than 25 per cent. should be used, or there is precipitation of the serum. The following are examples:

Seri antithyroidi moebius	...	...	m. 320
Spt. vini rect.	...	...	5j.
Glycerini	...	...	5iv.
Aquam ad	...	...	5iv.

M. ft. mist. 5j. ter die.

Dilute the serum with the glycerin and half the water and pour into the alcohol diluted with the rest of the water.

Vaccini pneumococci (1 c.c.=10,000,000)	...	m. xvij.
Glycerini	...	5j.
Aq. chlorof. ad	...	5vj.—M.

3ss. quaque secunda hora.

#### NITRITE WITH AN ACID

Frequently causes difficulty through the liberation of nitrous acid and consequent development of unlooked-for colorations, e.g.:

Potass. iodidi	...	gr. xlvij.
Sodii nitritus	...	gr. xij.
Liq. nitroglycerini	...	m. vj.
Sodii benzoatis	...	gr. lxxij.
Syr. zingiberis	...	5vj.
Aquam ad	...	5vj.—M.

With 20 grains of sodium bicarbonate, added to keep the mixture alkaline, no coloration was produced even on keeping.

Theocin sodii acetatis	...	gr. v.
Caffeinae citratis	...	gr. iv.
Sodii nitritus	...	gr. ij.
Ft. cachet.	...	

Half the amount of caffeine was used instead of the citrate, and the nitrite was rubbed down with dried sugar of milk, after which the cachets kept very well without any smell or oxides of nitrogen being formed.

#### THE USE OF SENECA AS AN EMULSIFYING AGENT

is not so general among prescribers as it ought to be, considering the utility of the drug and the advantage it presents of not making a thick gummy preparation. The following examples were given:

Paraldehydi	...	3iij.
Syrupi	...	3iij.
Tr. aurantii	...	mxxx.
Liq. senegæ	...	5j.
Aquam ad	...	3iij.—M.

5j. for a dose.

This shakes up easily, and is not so bad to take as a draught made with gum.

An unusual quantity of chloroform in the next example gave no trouble when shaken with a dram of liq. senegæ before adding to the mixture:

Liq. morph. mur.	...	5ij.
Tr. camph. co.	...	5ij.
Vini ipecac.	...	5ij.
Glycerini	...	5iv.
Chloroformi	...	mxxv.
Liq. cocci	...	m v.
Aquam ad	...	5iv.—M.

The following gargle is often ordered by a local doctor, and is a good example of the utility of senega:

Pot. chloratis	...	5ij.
Tr. myrrhæ	...	5ij.
Inf. senegæ	...	5ij.
Aquam ad	...	5vj.—M.

#### THE ORDER OF MIXING

is a cause of variation in the colour of some mixtures and in the density of precipitates naturally occurring in others.

Ext. cinchon. rub. liq.	...	5iv.
Auri chloridi	...	gr. j.
Inf. gent. co. ad	...	5viij.—M.

If the gold salt is added to the mixture last and diluted with 2 oz. of the infusion, the precipitate is bulky and light-coloured; but if the process is reversed, the precipitate is purplish and very dense.

Calcii glycerophosph.	...	5ij.
Sodii cinnamatis	...	gr. xx.
Acidi phosph. dil.	...	5j.
Liq. atrop. sulph.	...	mviij.
Glycerini	...	5i.
Inf. aurantii co. ad	...	5iv.

M. ft. mist. Sd. 5j. ter die.

Dissolve the sodium cinnamate in infusion q.s., then add to the glycerin, and to this the calcium glycerophosphate with the acid, and make up the rest of the ingredients. In this way the cinnamic acid thrown out is very finely diffused and requires no suspension.

Sodii salicylatis	...	5iij.
Potass. bicarb.	...	5j.
Tr. guaiaci ammon.	...	5iv.
Emulsionis petrolei	...	5ij.
Aq. chloroformi ad	...	5viij.—M.

Make a saturated solution of the salicylate in chloroform-water, add the tincture of guaiacum little by little, and pour the mixture into the emulsion, shaking well; finally add the bicarbonate dissolved in the rest of the chloroform-water. The salicylate dissolves the guaiacum resin and makes a very smooth mixture.

#### CHLORETONE IN A SUPPOSITORY

is somewhat uncommon, but treated as chloral hydrate it makes up well. Ten grains can be put into one suppository by melting 10 grains of wax and adding the chloretone to it. Each suppository weighs 20 grains, but goes into a 15-grain mould.

#### A CATHETER-OIL CONTAINING NITRATE OF SILVER.

(4 grains to the fluid ounce) was asked for by a doctor, and a satisfactory one turned out with the subjoined ingredients:

Argenti nitratis	...	gr. iv.
Spt. vini rect.	...	5iss.
Ol. ricini ad	...	5j.—M.

#### AN EYE-OINTMENT

of the following composition proved extremely irritating:

Hyd. ox. flav.	...	gr. ij.
Cocaine hydroch.	...	gr. ij.
Acidi borici	...	gr. iv.
Vasellini flavi	...	5iv.—M.

Thinking that the irritation might be caused by traces of mercuric chloride being formed, cocaine alkaloid dissolved in



castor oil mxx. by aid of heat was used instead of the hydrochloride, and mixed with the other ingredients on cooling. There was no further complaint.

#### A CACHET OF ASPIRIN AND POTASSIUM IODIDE

became much discoloured owing to liberation of iodine and this staining the starch of the cachets blue. The ingredients (aspirin gr. viij. and potass. iodid. gr. ij.) were powdered and well dried, and the cachets were made with two covers each. The only way to secure permanency is to rub the ingredients up separately with a small amount of cocoa butter, then granulate, and mix together, compressing lightly into the cachet. Pyramidon gr. viij. and salicin gr. viij. were put into a No. 2 cachet, but by the use of a compressor the mixture could be got into a No. 1.

#### CAPSULES OF CALCIUM PERMANGANATE,

gr. j. in each, were made by rubbing down the permanganate with enough French chalk to make a 2-grain powder before putting into a hard gelatin capsule.

An unusual prescription for capsules was

Strychnine sulphatis	...	...	...	gr. j.
Ext. digitalis	...	...	...	gr. v.
Magnesia usta	...	...	...	gr. xx.
M. ft. capsul. No. xx.				

At first sight one might take the amount given to be for one capsule instead of for twenty. Such slackness in the directions to the pharmacist is inexcusable. The powders were well triturated with enough sugar of milk to make up to 40 grains, and put into No. 3 hard capsules, 2 grains in each.

Mr. Wyatt next showed a prescription ordering  $7\frac{1}{2}$  minims of acid. hydrocyan. dil. for a dose. This was meant. Also a prescription for a syrup containing quinine alkaloid and liquorice extract, no acid being required. Next—

Ext. aloes	...	...	...	gr. j.
Pepsini	...	...	...	gr. j.
Ext. nucis vom.	...	...	...	gr. ss.
Acidi carbolic	...	...	...	gr. ss.
Ext. antheridis	...	...	...	q.s.

Ft. pilula.

The size of these pills was reduced by substituting pulv. antheridis for the extract. This is a good absorbent powder for pill-massing, being lighter than and as absorbent as liquorice powder.

Ferri iodidi	...	...	...	gr. iij.
Ext. gent.	...	...	...	gr. j.—Ft. pil.

This was sent by a correspondent. None of the samples of iodide which Mr. Wyatt procured were satisfactory, and he recommended the iodide to be made extemporaneously, massing with tragacanth powder and powdered gentian.

Terpinol	...	...	...	gr. iss.
Sodii benzoatis	...	...	...	gr. iss.—Ft. pil.

This became very soft when massed with liquorice powder and compound tragacanth powder, but made with wax gave a good mass. Alternative formulæ are as follows:

Terpinol	...	...	gr. iss.	Terpinol	...	...	gr. iss.
Sod. benz.	...	...	gr. iss.	Sod. benz.	...	...	gr. iss.
Kieselguhr	...	...	gr. ss.	Cere alba	...	...	gr. ss.
Saponis duri	...	...	gr. ss.	Saponis duri	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{4}$
Ft. pil.				Ft. pil.			

#### THE FOLLOWING PASTE

compounded with mercuric-oleate ointment (made by solution of the oxide in oleic acid) went solid and so hard as to be unusable:

Thiogenol	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ung. hyd. oleat., 10 per cent.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulv. amyli	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulv. zinci oxid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paraff. moll. ad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Ft. pasta.

The trouble was really due to the free oleic acid of the oleate forming oleate of zinc, which is a very hard body. The paste was all right when made with the oleate of the present Pharmacopœia diluted with benzoated lard.

Lotions like the following are often ordered in Liverpool, but cause hesitation in other parts of the country:

Acidi borici	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ext. opii liq.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Aq. rose	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Aquam ad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
									...

Use with equal amount of warm water.

If the finely crystallised boric acid known on the Continent as "paillettes" is used, it diffuses readily with a shake, and rapidly dissolves, even in cold water, when diluted. The prescriber intends a solution containing undissolved acid.

Mr. Wyatt concluded with an appeal to all who meet with dispensing difficulties to send them in to him, and they would be dealt with as soon as the requisite time could be given to them. After some discussion, which did not bring out any novel points, Mr. Wyatt was heartily thanked, on the proposal of Mr. Wokes, seconded by Mr. Marsden.

## Festivities.

### Mr. Howard on the Future.

THE thirty-first annual dinner of the City Mills, Stratford, E., Cricket Club was held on Saturday at the Langthorne Rooms, under the presidency of Mr. David Howard, J.P. In responding to the toast of "The Firm," the Chairman said: "The Firm" was not himself, nor even those present. It was the past and, he hoped, the future. It was impossible to carry on any business unless there was mutual help and mutual trust. He hoped they had good times before them. Life is very difficult nowadays, but if they worked together there is always a future for them.

### Salford Pharmacists' Association's Dinner.

OUR reporter, supplementing his notes of last week (*C. & D.*, November 19, p. 766), says: "Arrangements for the annual dinner were carried out by Mr. C. Brown, Hon. Secretary of the Entertainment Committee, and he deserves every credit for efficiency. A word of praise should also be accorded to Mr. T. Whittaker, the worthy host of the Cattle-market Hotel (himself erstwhile a pharmacist), for his excellent catering. The Entertainment Committee consisted of Mr. Councillor J. Jones; Mr. H. Stout (Pendleton), Hon. Secretary of the Association; with, as stated above, Mr. C. Brown, Hon. Secretary."

### Grimsby Pharmacists' Association.

At a smoker held at the Oberon Hotel, Grimsby, on November 17, a representative gathering of pharmacists and their friends spent a jovial time under the chairmanship of their President (Mr. Cornelius Willson). The visitors included Mr. Swales (Leeds) and Mr. Stanley Bowler (Leicester). In the course of a witty speech the Chairman welcomed those present, adding that he looked upon commercial representatives, whom he had heard spoken of as "pirates," rather as "pilots" of the industrial world. He was glad to note how everyone had helped to put the Association's funds in a sound position. The various items on the programme were highly appreciated, especially those by Mr. Cowie (recitations), Mr. Popple (songs), and Mr. Bert Speight (solos). The President also recited, while Mr. Stanley Bowler evoked roars of laughter by his interpretation of "The House that Jack Built." Mr. Ashton, the energetic Hon. Secretary, kept the ball rolling with several humorous songs. A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and artistes brought the most enjoyable evening to a close.

### Whist-parties.

THE annual whist-drive of the Wolverhampton and District Chemists' Association was given at the Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton, on November 17. Although there were not so many visitors present as in previous years, the evening was a very enjoyable one. Among those present were the President and Mrs. Dunn, Mr. Fellows (Vice-President), Alderman and Mrs. Johnson, the Rev. T. and Mrs. Wilkes, Councillor and Mrs. Beardmore, Councillor and Mrs. Willcock, the Secretary and Mrs. Coleman, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Warner, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Forster, Mr. and Mrs. Stanway, the Secretary of the Midland Pharmacists' Association and Mrs. Buckingham, Mr. and Mrs. Hill (Birmingham), Mr. and Mrs. Hagyard, and Mr. Hall. The winners of the ladies' prizes were Mrs. Howell (1st), Mrs. Hill (2nd), and Mrs. Beardmore (consolation). The gentlemen's prizes were carried off by the Rev. T. Wilkes (1st), Mr. Hall (2nd), and Alderman Johnson (consolation).

THE third whist-drive of the Liverpool Branch of the National Union of Assistant Pharmacists was held in the excellent rooms of Messrs. Kirkland Bros., Bold Street Café, on November 16. Among those present were Mr. G. V. C. Last (President, Liverpool Chemists' Association) and Mrs. Last, Messrs. T. Ashworth (President of the local branch), Giles-Kelly, Waddington, McGhie, M.A., B.Sc. (and Mrs. McGhie), C. Loveridge, G. McLoughlin (Evans Sons Lescher & Webb, Ltd.), MacSweeney (Ayrton & Saunders, Ltd.), L. S. Taylor, J. Hamilton, T. Jaques, and D. MacKay. Many friends from the Cheshire side were also present, the total being eighty-eight. Mr. Jas. J. B. Waldron acted as M.C. Refreshments were served during the interval, when Miss Bennett and Mr. D. MacKay were awarded the prizes for the best half-time score. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent, Mr. T. Jaques, H.M. Service, West Coast of Africa, distributed the prizes, which were won by Misses A. M. Laycock, W. Goff, and A. Chalmers, Messrs. J. O'Fallon, H. McGhie, and A. E. Young. A vote of thanks to the Hon. Secretary closed the best entertainment that has been held in Liverpool under the auspices of the Union.







## Medical Gleanings.

### The Prevention and Cure of Syphilis.

SOME interesting articles have recently appeared in the "Medical Press and Circular," translated from the French, bearing on modern methods of preventing infection and of curing it when infection has taken place. To begin with, there is a *résumé* of the thesis of Dr. Maisonneuve on the prevention of infection. The author is the "subject" who placed himself at the disposal of Professor Metchnikoff for the purpose of showing that the measures which had proved successful in preventing the evolution of syphilis in copiously inoculated monkeys were applicable to man. Briefly stated, Metchnikoff ascertained that the micro-organism of syphilis remains in the superficial layers of the skin for some hours, during which period it is accessible to applications having its destruction for object. The application in question is hermesyl, a specially prepared mercurial ointment (calomel 25 per cent.). Several hundred experiments on monkeys showed that if this be rubbed into the site of inoculation within a few hours (in one instance as many as twenty hours) of inoculation no infection takes place. In view of these uniformly successful results, it was deemed safe to try the method in man, and Dr. Maisonneuve, then a senior medical student, offered himself. A double inoculation of fresh material from a hard chancre was made into the prepuce, four monkeys being simultaneously inoculated from the same sources. The "subject" and two of the monkeys were then rubbed with the ointment, the two others being left untreated as control-animals. Neither Dr. Maisonneuve nor the first two monkeys became infected, whereas the two control-animals duly developed indurated chancres followed by the usual sequelæ. It would seem, therefore, that the use of the calomel ointment at or soon after exposure to infection affords absolute assurance against infection, a valuable property of which medical men, nurses, dentists, and midwives ought to be cognisant, since they are all liable to accidental inoculation in the course of their professional avocations. The other method, associated with the name of Professor Hallopeau, of Paris, aims at the cure of the disease while the infection is still localised in the lymphatics and glands of the infected area. He makes use of an arsenical preparation known as hectine. This is injected daily for thirty days into the chancre or its immediate neighbourhood so as to pass into and through the same lymphatic channels and enter the same lymphatic glands as the virus. As an additional precaution, he injects into the buttock a third of a grain of benzoate of mercury for the same period of time. In every instance this treatment had for effect to check the further evolution of the disease—that is to say, the patients never developed sore throat or cutaneous eruption indicative of constitutional infection. The importance of the treatment lies in the method of bringing the drug to bear, and apparently not in the use of any particular preparation, though it is essential to select one the injection of which is comparatively free from pain, otherwise the patient may not be willing to submit to the course. In the light of the achievements of Ehrlich's "606," it looks as if in another few years syphilis will become as rare a disease as leprosy, a consummation devoutly to be wished, seeing the ravages that it causes in all classes of society.

### Alcohol Vapour and Oxygen Inhalation.

IN our issue of August 27, p. 351, we gave an abstract of the paper read by Dr. W. H. Willcox before the British Medical Association regarding the therapeutic use of alcohol vapour mixed with oxygen. We now give an illustration showing the apparatus and method of administration. The simplest method of administration, said the author, is to have an ordinary bottle of about sixteen fluid ounces capacity, fitted with a rubber cork with two holes bored in it. Through the holes in the cork pass two glass tubes, one acting as the inlet, which reaches nearly to the bottom of the bottle; the other acting as the exit, and passing just through the cork. The glass tubes should be bent at right angles above the cork. The bottle should be about one-sixth full of absolute alcohol. It is convenient to have a metal collar round the neck of the bottle, to which is attached a wire hook, so that the wash-bottle may

be attached to the bed or other suitable support. The oxygen cylinder is attached by rubber tubing to the inlet tube of the wash-bottle, and to the exit tube is attached a length of rubber tubing, to the end of which is fixed an ordinary glass funnel for administering the oxygen and alcohol vapour when held over the mouth and nose of the patient. In an emergency the wash-bottle containing



absolute alcohol can be dispensed with, and a pad of wool soaked in absolute alcohol placed in the apex of the glass funnel, which is attached to the rubber tubing connected directly with the oxygen cylinder. Special face-pieces for the administration of the oxygen and alcohol vapours have been used on a few occasions, but these were not found suitable for clinical work, since the patients to whom the remedy was given were extremely ill, and they objected to the face-piece, being apparently under the impression that an anæsthetic was about to be given. Usually the administration of the mixture with a glass funnel suffices to produce a marked therapeutic effect in from three to five minutes.

## Business Changes.

Notes for this section must not be in the nature of advertisements, and they should be authenticated when sent to the Editor.

MR. MANTON YOUNG has opened a business at 45 Cardiff Road, Bargoed, Glam.

MR. W. G. YEATS, pharmacist, has disposed of his business at 71 East Hill, Wandsworth, London, S.W., to Mr. E. A. Atkins, Ph.C.

PAYNE'S DRUG-STORES (proprietor, Mr. H. Payne, Ph.C.) have removed from 61 Week Street, Maidstone, to No. 25 in the same thoroughfare.

HANKINSONS, LTD., of Ilford and Romford Road, London, E., are building a new branch at 5 South Park Parade, Green Lanes, Seven Kings, Essex.

MR. J. W. BAKER informs us that he has transferred his interest in the business of J. W. Baker & Co., wholesale druggists, Bristol, to the National Drug Co., Albert Road, Bristol, for which he acts as manager.

MR. M. H. HASSLAUER, late of Hasslauer Bros., 9 Mining Lane, London, E.C., has been appointed general manager of the import department of the Compagnie Commerciale Française de l'Extrême-Orient, 19 Rue Richer, Paris.



# Trade Report and Market Review.

The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of chemicals, drugs, oils, and many other commodities vary greatly, and higher prices than those here quoted are obtained for selected qualities of natural products even in bulk quantities. Retail buyers cannot, therefore, for these and other reasons, expect to purchase at these prices.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., November 24.

ALTHOUGH most of the price alterations are of slight significance this week, the volume of business done, especially in technical chemicals for forward delivery, is quite satisfactory, but trading in drugs and medicinal chemicals reflects the approaching end of the year; on the whole several prominent dealers express themselves as satisfied with business so far this month. The strength of tartar products continues a feature, further advances having taken place in soda tartarata and pulv. seidlitz, while foreign tartaric acid is also firmer. Ammonia sulphate is on the weaker side. Benzols are higher, and copper sulphate is firmer.

Among crude drugs good testing belladonna-root is scarce and sells at full prices. Benzoin continues extremely scarce and wanted, small lots being doled out from second-hands at high rates. Buchu lacks interest in view of proximity of new crop. Cardamom-seeds are dearer, and Spanish ergot sells in retail at again higher rates, no Russian being yet available. Grindelia robusta has substantially advanced. Jalap tends easier in view of new crop offerings. Menthol remains firm, the small spot stocks being in strong hands. Bergamot oil is scarce for prompt shipment. Clove oil has advanced a further 2d. Castor oil is firm. Lemon oil is quiet and unaltered. West Indian distilled lime oil has been sold at lower rates, and East Indian palmarosa oil is easier owing to a better supply. Opium is firm, the feature being a continued active market at primary sources. Shellac is easier, turpentine steady, and vanilla at auction realised fully previous sales' rates. The more important changes are as follows:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Benzols Clove oil Glycerin Mace (W.I.) Pulv. seidlitz Soda tart.	Copper sulphate Ergot Tartaric acid	Ammonia sulphate Cod-liver oil Guarana Palmarosa oil Quicksilver (seconds) Shellac Turpentine	Lime oil (W.I.) Pepper (white) Petroleum

## Cablegrams.

SMYRNA, November 23:—The sales of opium amount to sixty cases at from 13s. 3d. to 13s. 9d. per lb. Market is firm and advancing.

NEW YORK, November 24:—Business in drugs is quiet. Opium is 15c. per lb. dearer at \$4.75 for druggists' by single cases. Hydrastis (golden seal) is firm at \$2.30. Peppermint oil is firming at \$2.20 for Wayne County in tins. Copaiba is steady at 38c. for Central and South American. Buchu is 10c. easier at 80c. for fair round greenish. Cascara sagrada and jalap are unaltered.

## Manchester Chemical-market.

November 22.

The market is steady generally, although there are elements in the political world which are tending to disturb the balance of trade somewhat. Sulphate of copper is again in good inquiry, and special brands are difficult to obtain, except at a premium of 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton. Caustic soda is in rather

better inquiry for 1911 delivery. In bleaching-powder makers are fully sold, and the scarcity would appear to be felt in all centres. Ammonia alkali, 58 per cent., is rather dearer. Calcium chloride is steady at 17. 17s. 6d. to 21. per ton. Borax in good inquiry. There is no change to note in pot and pearl ashes, which remain steady. Nitrate of potash sells freely at from 25l. to 27l. per ton. Rectified sulphuric acid, 167° to 170° T., is quoted 4l. per ton on rails. Cream of tartar and acids are rather quiet, especially oxalic. Coal-tar products steady. Sulphate of ammonia is quoted at from 12l. 11s. 9d. to 12l. 12s. 6d. per ton on rails Manchester. Creosote is 24d. per lb.

## Heavy Chemicals.

The condition of the heavy-chemical market continues much the same as indicated in recent reports. A good all-round business is being transacted, and if anything there is again a somewhat heavier inquiry on forward account. Values, generally speaking, maintain a steady tone, and for the most part are unaltered rates.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Main products in this branch continue in good request, and bleaching-powder keeps on the scarce side and, subject to arrangement of delivery, is nominally quoted 4l. 15s. to 5l. 5s. free on rails. For early deliveries next year prices are unchanged at 4l. 2s. 6d. to 4l. 7s. 6d. for softwoods. Caustic soda, ammonia alkali, prussiates, and chlorates have all been in fair demand at unaltered rates. Saltcake has been moving somewhat more freely.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.—The tone in this market just at the moment is somewhat weaker, and prices are a little lower, and makers seem more inclined to conclude business at the lower figures. At the same time stocks do not seem to be on the heavy side, and any material increase in demand would influence prices upwards. Present nearest figures: Beckton, 25 per cent. ammonia guaranteed, 12l. 10s. net cash; London terms, 12l. 5s. net cash; Leith, 13l.; Hull, 12l. 17s. 6d.; and Liverpool, 12l. 17s. 6d. per ton.

BIARIUM-PRODUCTS have been in fair average request, and values continue steady and with every indication of remaining so. Blanc fixe, pure precipitated sulphate of barium in paste form, 6l. 10s. to 7l. per ton in usual 8 to 9 cwt. casks; mineral sulphate of barytes, 35s. to 90s. per ton, according to quality, quantity, and package; chloride of barium, best ordinary refined, coarse or fine crystals, 6l. 15s. to 7l. 2s. 6d. per ton; precipitated barium carbonate, 95 to 99 per cent., 6l. to 6l. 10s. per ton in bags; hydrate of barium crystals, 12l. 15s. to 13l. 15s. per ton in 6 to 7 cwt. casks; barium hydrate, fused concentrated, 55 to 60 per cent. BaO solid, in 6 to 7 cwt. drums, 13l. 10s. to 14l. per ton, and similar quality in crushed state and in special drums about 3 cwt. each 30s. per ton extra; barium sulphide, crude calcined, 70 to 75 per cent. BaS, 5l. 2s. 6d. to 5l. 15s. per ton in 6 to 7 cwt. casks.

## Continental Drug and Chemical Markets.

CARNAUBA WAX.—Recently the smaller lots which were still obtainable at low rates have been taken off the market. As a result, the tone is steadier, and stimulating reports are to hand from Brazil. D. fatty grey is quoted at m.272.50 to m.275, and E. current grey at the same price.

CEVADILLA.—The stocks of old crops are practically cleared off, and little is now obtainable under m.79 to m.80 per 100 kilos. With regard to new crop, which is not expected before December, nothing is reported.

ERGOT.—The scarcity of this article has compelled holders to ask m.400 per 100 kilos. Offers for immediate delivery are scarce, and for a small quantity full prices have been paid.

GLYCERIN is no longer obtainable at the prices asked at the beginning of November. For the usual large contracts, makers are now asking a minimum of m.205 per 100 kilos. for Ph.G. IV. quality. Second-hands are still worse off, and are only able to supply small quantities at m.220 per 100 kilos.

IGNATIUS BEANS.—The demand has somewhat improved recently, and several lots in first-hands have been disposed of without difficulty at m.1.90 to m.2 per kilo. As stocks on hand are small and arrivals of further supplies cannot be counted on at present, second-hands are asking m.2.10.

IPCACUANHA.—Since English speculators began to interest themselves the prices advanced. This was all the easier, seeing that the stocks of Cartagena were practically nil, while



of Rio some 50 bales were on the market. For Cartagena m.14.75 and for Rio m.16.75 per kilo. have already been paid, and if further supplies fail, which appears to be the case, next week will bring higher prices.

**JALAP** continues steady. The supplies which have recently come in are all high percentage, and are quoted at m.4 to m.4.50 per kilo.; 10 per cent. or thereabouts can be had at m.3.90 ex warehouse.

**LYCOPodium** is quiet but steady. Spot (Hamburg) goods in cases have been sold at m.3.80, and for delivery m.3.80. Generally speaking, the crops have been small.

**MARSHMALLOW**.—As far as can be judged, the prospects for the new crop are fairly satisfactory. The cultivated area is in excess of last year, though the roots show only scanty development. The fact that stocks are quite cleared out will result in the new season beginning with scarcely lower prices. Normal arrivals and reserve on the part of the buyers, however, may result in a fall at a subsequent date, perhaps in the first months of 1911.

**SODA SALTS**.—The syndicate of German soda-makers has resolved not to alter the prices for soda carbonate, but to reduce those for caustic soda for 1911 by m.1 per 100 kilos.

**STRYCHNINE**.—Owing to the fact that many districts have been infested with mice during the autumn, a very considerable demand has taken place, which makers were unable to meet in any considerable quantity. At other times such a demand for strychnine would have been followed by an advance, which, however, has not taken place this year.

**THYMOL**.—If cheaper prices—now reduced to m.9.50 per kilo.—have been quoted, this is attributable not only to the undercutting, which continues keen, but to a much larger production. In fact the market is flooded, the supply being in excess of the possibilities of consumption.

**TONKA BEANS** are unobtainable. The few kilos. in second-hands are a negligible quantity. New supplies are expected, in regard to which, however, no particulars are available.

**VANILLIN**.—Despite somewhat increased consumption and the anticipation of a further movement in this direction, the product is still obtainable at cheap rates. Keen competition continues, and as prices have fallen as low as m.27 and m.28 per kilo., the recent position entitles one to suppose that the lowest quotations have not yet been reached.

### American Drug-market.

*New York, November 15.*

The general conditions governing the New York drug-market have scarcely altered during the interval, being characterised by indisposition to operate in a speculative way and careful buying of consuming-supplies. The turnover of jobbing lots of seasonable drugs is fairly satisfactory, however, and a steady tone prevails.

**ALOES**.—Shipments of ease Curaçao for this market have been rather heavy of late, and, with keen competition among dealers, prices are tending lower, jobbing lots selling at 3c. reduction to 7½c., while ton lots are available at 6½c. to 7c. Gourds and Capi are quiet at unchanged prices.

**ASAETIDA**.—Under the prevailing scarcity of gum suitable for this market, values continue in firming tendency, \$1.50 to \$1.75 being asked for consuming-supplies, with higher prices in prospect.

**BUCHU** is cheaper at 90c. for shorts, in anticipation of new crop.

**CAMPHOR**.—Owing to the approach of large consignments of Japanese refined, which are offered at a considerable reduction, American refiners have lowered their prices 3c. to 42c. for bulk in barrels and 42½c. for 4-oz. cubes.

**CANADA BALSAM** is available at \$4.40 per gal. in barrels, but the market is in firming tendency, owing to the lightness of spot supplies and the absence of offers from primary sources. Oregon sells for 90c. to \$1 as to grade and dealer.

**CASCARA SAGRADA**.—A good demand for manufacturing-supplies is reported from the coast, and with the reduction of stocks a firm market prevails. On spot a fairly large business has been done, and prices are firm at 7½c. to 8½c., according to age and quantity.

**COPAIBA**.—Central and South American grades are in rather small supply; but the demand is backward meantime, and prices are in easy tendency at 38c. to 42c. as to quality. Para is unchanged at 45c.

**GRINDELLA ROBUSTA** is in poor supply on spot, and efforts to trace adequate supplies on the coast have been unavailing, owing to the small amount collected this season. Locally prices have been advanced 2c. to 10c. to 12c. as to grade and quantity.

**HYDRASTIS** continues scarce on spot, and, with a fair demand for domestic consumption, prices are higher by 5c. at \$2.50. Inquiry at primary sources, with a view to satisfying a considerable export demand, revealed a very strong market there. The amount dug this fall has been below the normal crop, the difficulty of collecting from the widely dis-

tributed patches rendering gathering unprofitable even at present prices.

**GUARANA** is quoted at \$2.20 for spot goods, but easier prices are available for near-by supplies.

**IPECACUANHA** has been the subject of considerable interest during the interval, owing to the tardy arrival of new crop. Advice from primary sources are to the effect that gathering has been delayed by stormy weather, and, since spot supplies are much depleted, an advance of 30c. to \$1.80 is asked for the closely held stock of Cartagena. For Rio \$2 is wanted.

**PEPPERMINT OIL** (American) continues in easier tendency on spot, tin oil being offered in some quarters at a 5c. decline to \$2.15. The country position is regarded as being generally firm and the decline of a temporary nature, due to the unloading of stocks by weaker holders.

### London Markets.

**ALOES**.—The exports from Cape Colony during September amounted to 37,638 lb., valued at 375l., against 79,252 lb., valued at 778l. For the nine months ending September 1910 the exports have been 596,951 lb., valued at 6,065l., against 523,773 lb., valued at 4,847l., for the corresponding period of 1909. The arrivals in London this week comprise 100 boxes Curaçao.

**ARROWROOT**.—Nothing offered at auction. Privately market is quiet, with sales of St. Vincent at up to 2d. per lb..

**BELLADONNA-ROOT**.—There is a temporary spot scarcity of good testing root, holders being able to obtain 45s. per cwt. for prompt.

**BENZON**.—An arrival of 16 cases Sumatra has taken place. The parcel of 13 cases Siam has been almost cleared; the price paid for the three cases good small and medium size, which sold in rostrum last week, was 22l. per cwt.

**BROMIDES**.—Makers report the market as very firm, and the market is still in upward tendency, emphasis being laid on the fact that makers sell for prompt delivery only. Second-hand rates are close up to those of makers.

**BUCHU**.—In view of the early advent of the new crop, due about the beginning of the year, buyers evince little interest. Three packages, presumably "longs," have arrived this week. The exports from Cape Colony during September 1910 amounted to 21,074 lb., valued at 2,151l., against 8,457 lb., valued at 380l., in September 1909. For the nine months ending September 1910 the exports were 243,933 lb., valued at 21,753l., against 235,577 lb., valued at 8,594l., for the corresponding period of 1909, or 8,356 lb. more.

**CAPRICUMS**.—At auction 35 bags Nyasaland sold at from 47s. to 49s. per cwt. for large red off-stalk.

**CARDAMOMS**.—The stocks of decorticated seed are well concentrated on the spot, holders asking 2s. 5d. per lb., having sold a fair quantity at 2s. 4d. There have been no arrivals of cardamoms this week, and little is looked for until the new crop due in January.

**CHILLIES**.—At auction firm rates were paid, 108 bags Nyasaland selling at 51s. to 52s. for fair bright, and dark at 46s. to 49s.; 40 bags East African sold at 48s. for dark bright red.

**CHIRETTA** remains very scarce and dear. There appears to be none in first hands, and for second-hand lots 4½d. has been paid.

**CINCHONA**.—The auction to be held at Amsterdam on December 8 will consist of 8,897 packages Ledgeriana and hybrid, 910 cases and 896 bales Succirubra, or 10,703 packages in all, weighing about 887,341 kilos. The first-hand stock at Amsterdam, including the above offerings, consists of 38,077 packages—i.e., 6,604 packages Government and 31,473 packages private bark. The shipments from Java to Europe during the first half of November amounted to 475,000 Amst. lb., against 538,000 Amst. lb. for the corresponding period of November 1909.

**CLOVES**.—At auction 27 bags Seychelles sold at from 9½d. to 9¼d. per lb. for good bright, at 6½d. to 6¼d. for small mixed headless, and 11 bags stems at 3d. per lb. Privately the market has been dull and easier, the sales including January-March delivery at 7½d. to 7¼d., and March-May at 7½d. to 7¼d.; for arrival, January-March shipment is quoted 7½d. c.i.f. d/w.

**COCA-LEAVES**.—At auction at Amsterdam on December 8 417 packages Java, weighing 23,443 kilos., will be offered.



**COLOCYNTH.**—The exports from Cyprus during 1909 amounted to 161 cwt., valued at 390*l.*, against 59 cwt., valued at 251*l.*, during 1908.

**COPPER SULPHATE** is firmer, ordinary Liverpool brands offering at from 19*l.* 10*s.* to 19*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, and spring delivery, 20*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to 20*l.* 10*s.* per ton.

**DRAGON'S-BLOOD.**—Nine cases Singapore lump have arrived.

**ERGOT.**—With each small sale that is made the pretensions of holders advance, owing to the scarcity. Retail lots of Spanish have been sold at 2*s.* 7*d.* spot, and for fine sound 2*s.* 9*d.* is asked. To arrive 2*s.* 3*d.* c.i.f. has been paid, with 2*s.* 4*d.* to 2*s.* 5*d.* asked. Russian is unobtainable either on spot or to arrive.

**GALLS.**—Sales of Persian blue have been made at 60*s.* per cwt. spot.

**GAMBOGE.**—Quiet. Eleven cases Siam pipe have arrived.

**GINGER.**—At auction 172 bags washed rough Cochin were bought in at 55*s.* for small and medium. Privately sales have been made at 52*s.*

**GLYCERIN.**—Dearer. At a meeting of the British Convention held on Wednesday it was decided to advance the price of double-distilled by 5*l.* per ton, this making the official quotation for s.g. 1.260, 105*l.* per ton for drums and 109*l.* in tins and cases for 5-ton contracts.

**GRINDELIA ROBUSTA** shows a substantial advance in New York, cables to hand on Wednesday quoting 7½*d.* per lb. c.i.f., which is considerably above normal value. A fair quantity has changed hands lately, mostly for manufacturers. Yerba santa has also advanced.

**GUM ACACIA.**—Quiet. Retail sales of fair half-hard Sudan sorts have been made at 39*s.* to 40*s.* spot.

**HYDRASTIS** is unaltered at 10*s.* per lb. net on spot.

**IPECACUANHA** is quiet but firmly held. The arrivals comprise 10 bales Minas of good quality, while another parcel of East Indian (said to be about 3,000 lb.) is close at hand.

**JALAP.**—The recent sales "without reserve" have practically cleared all the cheap lots from first-hands, and although supplies on the spot are scarce, there are no urgent buyers, as with the new crop due in January lower prices will rule. Meanwhile bids are being solicited for shipment.

**LIME-JUICE.**—Concentrated West Indian is steady at 18*l.* 5*s.*

**MACE.**—At auction the large supply of 134 packages sold at an advance of 2*d.* per lb., including fair palish at 2*s.* 6*d.*, pale and reddish at 2*s.* 3*d.* to 2*s.* 4*d.*, fair reddish 2*s.* 2*d.* to 2*s.* 3*d.*, dark red 1*s.* 11*d.* to 2*s.* 1*d.*, and broken at 1*s.* 7*d.* to 1*s.* 10*d.* per lb.

**MANDARIN OIL.**—There is said to be nothing left at primary sources, the value being about 25*s.* per lb.

**MENTHOL** remains firm, holders of Kobayashi asking 11*s.* to 11*s.* 3*d.* spot for a limited quantity, but 11*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.* is confidently spoken of as likely to rule in the near future, the stocks being in the hands of strong holders. To arrive 11*s.* 1*d.* c.i.f. is quoted for Kobayashi.

**MUSK.**—Tonquin pod is firm but quiet. Fine thin skin blue Pile I. is quoted 72*s.* 6*d.* per oz., and Pile III. 55*s.*, old style is 54*s.* for Pile I. and 35*s.* for Pile III.

**NUTMEGS.**—At auction the large supply of 460 packages West Indian sold at steady to ½*d.* per lb. dearer rates.

**OIL, ANISE, STAR.**—Quiet, with sellers of "Red Ship" brand at 5*s.* 1*d.* spot, and to arrive 4*s.* 6½*d.* c.i.f. is quoted.

**OIL, BERGAMOT.**—Supplies of oil for prompt shipment remain limited in primary markets, and full prices have been paid for a few lots to cover this position by local shippers. Several agents are unable to offer new crop, which is not likely to be ready before the end of December; in other directions from 16*s.* 6*d.* to 17*s.* is quoted.

**OIL, CASTOR.**—Firm. Hull make is quoted 35*l.* 10*s.* per ton in barrels for pharmaceutical quality, and 33*l.* for first pressing for January delivery, delivered free on wharf London; tins and cases 50*s.* per ton extra. Belgian make oil first pressings in barrels is offered at 33*l.* per ton for December delivery, ex wharf London.

**OIL, CITRONELLA.**—To arrive for January-March shipment 10½*d.* per lb. c.i.f. London has been paid for Ceylon.

**OIL, CLOVE.**—The English distillers announce a further advance of 2*d.* per lb. to 4*s.* 4*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*, the lower price being for 12 W. qts.

**OIL, COD-LIVER.**—Our Bergen correspondent writes on November 21 that the market is easier, and finest non-congealing Lofoten oil is freely offered at 106*s.* 6*d.* per barrel c.i.f. terms, but buyers are holding aloof. The exports from Bergen up to date amount to 10,225 barrels, against 14,825 barrels at the corresponding date of 1909.

**OIL, LEMON.**—Trading continues slow at primary sources, but holders maintain unaltered prices for prompt oil in spite of the absence of business. Forward contracts for fresh lemons are being arranged, this making it easier to contract for the oil. From 3*s.* 3*d.* per lb. c.i.f. is quoted.

**OIL, LEMONGRASS.** is firm on the spot at from 3½*d.* to 4*d.* per oz., and to arrive there are sellers at 3½*d.* e.i.f.

**OIL, LIME.**—West Indian distilled is lower, sales in quantity having been made at 1*s.* 1*d.* per lb. for fair quality, and for small lots from 1*s.* 3½*d.* to 1*s.* 4*d.* has been obtained. Hand-pressed has been sold in a small way at 5*s.* 6*d.* per lb., with further sellers. Arrivals lately have been on a moderate scale, including 52 packages this week.

**OIL, ORANGE.** remains unchanged and firm at primary sources, the local demand having readily absorbed the lots on offer. For export, the demand continues poor, buyers waiting the further developments of the crop. For *sweet*, from 5*s.* 7½*d.* to 5*s.* 9*d.* c.i.f., and for *bitter* from 5*s.* 9½*d.* to 6*s.* per lb. c.i.f. is quoted for prompt shipment.

**OIL, PALMAROSA.**—The proximity of shipments enables holders to reduce their prices somewhat; 8*d.* per oz. is quoted on the spot for finest East Indian.

**OILS, FIXED.**—American *Turpentine* has declined 6*d.* per cwt. on the week, closing at 55*s.* 3*d.* *Linseed* is lower at 43*s.* 9*d.* in pipes and 44*s.* in barrels on spot. *Cottonseed* is also easier at from 29*s.* to 29*s.* 6*d.* for crude, 29*s.* 6*d.* for ordinary pale refined, and 33*s.* 6*d.* for sweet refined. *Rape* is quiet and unaltered at 26*s.* per cwt. for ordinary brown crude and at 28*s.* for English refined in casks. *Soya* is easier at 33*s.* spot, naked. Cochin *Coconut* is also easier at 49*s.* and at 42*s.* for Ceylon on the spot. Lagos *Palm* oil is unaltered at 38*s.* 6*d.* spot and 37*s.* Liverpool. *Petroleum* is ½*d.* per gal. lower at 5½*d.* for ordinary refined American, 6½*d.* for water white, and 5*d.* to 5½*d.* for Russian.

**OLIBANUM.**—The market remains bare of good qualities, which are badly wanted; a few bales of fair siftings have been sold at 22*s.* per cwt.

**OPUM.**—The cable which is published on p. 74 indicates a firm market in Smyrna on the basis of from 13*s.* 3*d.* to 13*s.* 9*d.* for 11½ per cent. Karahissar. Spot supplies of druggists' are very small, holders asking from 13*s.* 9*d.* to 14*s.* per lb. In Persian, sales for export have been made at 15*s.* 3*d.* spot.

Writing on November 11, a Smyrna correspondent reports a very active market, sales amounting to 179 baskets of 160 lb. each. Prices advanced fully 6*d.*, and the market closes firm at 12*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.* 6*d.* as to condition, appearance, quality, and strength. We understand that a large percentage of above purchases are for Japan, but the U.S.A., too, have made fairly large purchases. The arrivals to date amount to 3,866 cases, against 1,692 cases at same period last year.

Writing on November 12, a Smyrna correspondent reports that the sales amount to 179 cases, closing at 120 piastres for choice Karahissar, or 12*s.* 4*d.* per lb. c.i.f., and at 115 piastres or 12*s.* 9*d.* for secondary qualities. The concession of 3 piastres accorded to buyers has facilitated business, and if the present demand continues the market will gradually become firmer. Holders in the highlands are prepared to sell with greater ease, while holders in the border regions are evidently hoping for an advance, while holding aloof from speculation. The arrivals amount to 3,866 cases, against 1,692 cases last year.

Writing on November 12, another Smyrna correspondent reports that the market was very active during the whole week, important sales taking place for the U.S.A. and Japan; transactions presented some difficulty, but were successful, with a slight advance in prices. It is fortunate that native speculators suspended the execution of existing orders, as the rise would otherwise have been more pronounced.

**ORRIS.**—Florentine remains firm, selected offering at 48*l.* per ton net c.i.f. London, and sorts at 42*l.* 15*s.*



**PEPPER (BLACK).**—Nothing offered at auction. Privately market is quiet, with fair Singapore offering at 4½d. per lb. on spot; for arrivals the sales include 50 tons December-February shipment at 3½d. per lb. c.i.f. d/w and sellers.

**PEPPER (WHITE).**—At auction 84 bags Singapore sold without reserve at 6½d. per lb. for dull and dusty mixed. Privately, the spot price of fair Singapore is 7½d.; to arrive the market is easier, with sales of Singapore for November-December shipment at 6½d., and January-March 6½d. to 6½d. c.i.f. d/w.

**PIMENTO.**—At auction 292 bags were bought in at 2½d. per lb.; privately, sellers quote 18s. 9d. per cwt. c.i.f.

**POTASH PERMANGANATE** remains firm at from 38s. 6d. to 39s. for small crystals, up to about 44s. 6d. for large.

**PULV. SEIDLITZ.**—The British makers announce a further advance of 5s. 3d. per cwt., the quotation for 5-cwt. casks being 73s., and in 28-lb. parcels 75s. 3d. per cwt., without engagement. See also soda tart.

**QUICKSILVER**, after being an easier market in second-hands most of the week, closes steadier at 7l. 11s. per bottle, the chief importers quoting 8l.

**QUININE.**—The exports of "quinine, quinine salts and combinations" from Germany during the nine months ending September have been as follows:

Kilos.	1908	1909	1910
...	96,700	119,300	141,200

**RHUBARB.**—Small sales of Canton have been made at 10½d. per lb. for medium round, 10½d. for flat high-dried, and 7d. for rough round.

**RUBBER** has been quiet and featureless throughout, owing to reserved sellers. The quotation for hard fine Para on the spot closes practically unchanged on the week at 6s. 2½d. value.

**SARSAPARILLA.**—The arrivals include 25 bales of grey Jamaica and 12 bales of Vera Cruz.

**SHELLAC.**—At auction 100 cases TN orange sold cheaply without reserve at from 74s. to 75s. per cwt. for ordinary brownish matted to blocky. Privately the market has been quiet and easier inclined, fair TN orange offering on the basis of 84s. per cwt. spot. In the delivery market the few sales include December at 83s. 6d. to 84s., March 86s. 6d.

**SODA TARTARATE.**—The British makers on Monday announced a further advance of 7s. per cwt., the price of powder or crystals in 5-cwt. casks being 88s. and in 28-lb. parcels 91s. per cwt., without engagement. See also pulv. seidlitz.

**SQUILL.**—Offers of new crop are difficult to secure, and the price of good dry white on the spot is 3d. per lb.

**TURMERIC** remains firm at 24s. for fair Madras finger.

**VANILLA.**—At auction 560 tins offered and chiefly sold. Long firsts were rather dearer, good shorts easier, and brown, foxy, and split full up. The bulk consisted of Seychelles, fair to good firsts, 7 to 8 in., selling at 14s. to 17s.; 5 to 7 in., 12s. to 13s. 6d.; 3 to 5 in., 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d.; plump firsts, damp, 6 to 8 in., 11s. to 14s.; 4½ to 6 in., 9s. 6d. to 12s.; lean firsts, 6 to 8 in., 12s. to 13s. 6d.; 3 to 5½ in., 10s. to 11s. 6d.; seconds, 3½ to 6½ in., 9s. 6d. to 9s. 9d.; brown and split, 9s. to 10s.; common, 8s. 6d. to 8s. 9d.; mouldy, 5s. 6d. to 8s. per lb.

**WAX, CARNAUBA.**—For fatty grey from 132s. 6d. to 135s. has been paid, but sellers now ask 137s. 6d. to 138s. Current yellow is quoted 210s. net f.o.b. Hamburg per cwt.

#### Cocaine in China.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of the following regulation made by H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Peking under Article 155 of "The China and Korea Order in Council, 1904": "On and after December 1, 1910, any British subject importing into China cocaine or instruments for the injection of cocaine, except in accordance with the conditions laid down in Article 11 of the treaty of September 5, 1902, for the importation of morphia, or any British subject manufacturing in China cocaine or instruments for the injection of cocaine shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 50l., or to imprisonment for any term not exceeding three months, or to both such punishments, and the cocaine and the instruments for the injection of cocaine may be declared to be forfeited."

#### Amygdalina Eucalyptus Oil.

In further reference to the note on amygdalina eucalyptus oil (*C. & D.*, November 12, p. 724) supplied by the Tasmanian Eucalyptus Oil Co., Ltd., to the Sulphide Corporation for the purposes of treating refractory ores, we understand that in Australia considerable orders have been given to various eucalyptus-oil distillers to supply oil to the sulphide-works in New South Wales and elsewhere, and that the consumption is likely to exceed 20 tons per month. It is only low-grade oils such as amygdalina that are being used, and the price of B.P. oils is not likely to be affected. Amygdalina oil is being offered in Australia at about 6d. to 7d. per lb., and it is the low price which has enabled its use on the present large scale.

#### Ceylon Citronella Oil.

The resolution passed by the London Chamber of Commerce in regard to the adoption of the geraniol standard for citronella oil, which has been communicated to the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, has led the "Ceylon Observer" to obtain the views of Colombo shippers, which are as follows:

Mr. E. S. Clark, of Clark, Young & Co., said his firm had only been asked to ship under Schimmel's test, which was quite sufficient for their purposes. He had received complaints that the quality was not right, but he did not know that the adoption of the new test would help matters. He did not know what it was. A pure oil, especially a low-grade one, did not always pass Schimmel's test, and that was probably one of the causes of dissatisfaction.

Mr. O. J. Steiger, of Volkart Bros., said that no ordinary merchant could test citronella oil with the geraniol-test, and he did not think a single exporter of citronella oil would be in favour of such a change. An experienced chemist was required to make the test. The adoption of the geraniol-test would destroy the citronella-oil business in Ceylon. The reason why it was wanted was probably that it was a much safer test. Most buyers at home were content with Schimmel's test, and the biggest importers in America and on the Continent considered it impossible for a merchant in Ceylon to apply the geraniol-test without employing an experienced chemist.

Mr. S. P. Hayley, of Hayley & Kenny, said the importers wanted the geraniol-test applied because the value of the oil to them was determined by the quantity of geraniol it contained. Schimmel's test allowed of a very poor oil being delivered, whereas if one tested it for geraniol one could be quite certain it was a good oil. The application of the geraniol-test was impracticable, because every shipment of oil would have to be analysed by the Government Analyst or someone equally competent, and that would be impracticable. It would also be too costly. It was too complicated a test for the ordinary merchant. He had not the time, and probably would not be able to do it.

From Mr. Alexander Fairlie, the Acting Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. F. M. Simpson, the Secretary, the "Observer" learned that the question was referred to the Chamber by Government as the result of a discussion at a meeting of the Board of Agriculture in January 1908. The views of the different members interested were obtained, and it was found that no further steps were considered necessary, as the trade, both in the island and the countries to which the oil was exported, was satisfied with the results afforded by Schimmel's test. Since that date the matter had not been raised again, but it would probably come up shortly, in view of the London Chamber of Commerce's proposition which had been sent to the Ceylon Chamber.

Messrs. Schimmel & Co., in their report for October 1910, write: "Having made experiments in the producing-district with Schimmel's raised test, we have recently been able to convince ourselves that if only the exporters and the large consumers could be induced unanimously to insist upon the oil answering Schimmel's raised test, the adulteration of citronella oil with petroleum would in a very short time be reduced to a minimum. It must, however, be admitted that it would also be necessary to pay somewhat enhanced prices." The report also makes reference to Mr. John C. Umney's latest suggestions that Ceylon citronella oil should be divided, according to their geraniol-content, into three groups, showing percentages of 56 to 60, 60 to 64, and 64 to 68, and valued accordingly. Messrs. Schimmel conclude that "the sale of Ceylon citronella oil should be conducted on the basis of its acetylisable constituents, whereas in the case of the Java oil, which is much more valuable, the citronellal-content might perhaps be made the determining factor."

**INDIAN HEMP PROHIBITED.**—A French Presidential Decree, dated November 3, prohibits the importation into Indo-China of the leaves and flowers of Indian hemp (*Cannabis indica*), and all preparations thereof.





### Memoranda for Correspondents.

All communications must be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers, otherwise they are not recorded. Queries by subscribers on dispensing, legal, and miscellaneous subjects pertaining to pharmacy and its allied trades are replied to in these columns, if they are of general interest. Letters submitted to the Editor for publication (if suitable) should be written on one side of the paper only. Their publication in the "C. & D." does not imply our agreement with the opinions of the writers.

#### Publication of the British Pharmacopœia.

SIR,—On p. 767 of your current issue, I am represented to have publicly stated that "negotiations opened between the General Medical Council and the Pharmaceutical Society could result in the publication of the Pharmacopœia under joint control, with a sharing of profit, etc." I shall be glad if you will insert prominently in your next issue my definite assertion that those words were not used by me, nor did I make any mention of "profit-sharing" or anything that could have been construed in that way.

Believe me, yours faithfully,

JOHN J. HARRINGTON,

President, Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.  
17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., November 21.  
[The President's reference is to the words in italics. We regret that we misreported him to this extent.—EDITOR C. & D.]

#### Dagga.

SIR,—In your issue of October 1, I note under "G. W. G. (247/50)" that you say you cannot find the plant "docker" mentioned in the 1908 notes you printed on South African plants. Your correspondent has got the right pronunciation, but the name is wrongly spelt; it should be "dagga." Of this plant there are three well known, as follows: *Common dagga*, which is hemp (*Cannabis*) and is smoked, a decoction also being made from the leaves to expel "bots" from horses; *Klip dagga* (stone dagga), *Leonotis ovata*, of which the leaves are used by natives as cure for snake-bite; *wild or red dagga* (*Leonotis Leonurus*)—the supposed wonderful snake-bite cures (?) have been effected by preparations from this plant.

Yours faithfully,

Howick Falls, October 22. J. H. B. (102/40.)

SIR,—Re your correspondent's query as to "Docker," I may state that the natives of Natal smoke a species of *Cannabis indica* leaves. It is known as "Dacha." The Zulu name is "Insangu."

Yours faithfully,

Germiston, October 24. V. RAYWOOD.

#### Property in Prescriptions.

SIR,—I have read with interest the leading article on the above subject in your issue of to-day, but cannot agree that the question of the ownership of medical prescriptions is of merely academic interest. On the contrary, it is of the greatest practical importance to pharmacists, as well as to medical men and their patients. Repeated endeavours have been, and are being, made to obtain for pharmacists a larger share of the dispensing which they have been specially trained to perform, but foremost among the difficulties encountered is the objection of many general medical practitioners to give prescriptions, because, as you point out, by so doing they lose control of their patients. That being so, surely pharmacists should co-operate in any endeavour to prevent the undesirable repetition of medical prescriptions. In my opinion, there is no doubt that the prescription received by a patient from a medical man for the consideration of a fee, becomes the absolute property of the person who has paid the fee; but, as I have already suggested in the columns of your contemporary (*vide* "Lancet," October 1, 1910, p. 1030), pharmacists would respect and faithfully observe any directions which might

be addressed to them on the face of a prescription by the prescriber with regard to the number of times it should be dispensed.

Yours faithfully,

Exeter, November 18.

H. WIPPELL GADD.

[General medical practitioners who hold out repetition of prescriptions as their principal objection to giving up dispensing must find a more rational excuse for their practice. We have pointed out that in those parts of this country where it is the established custom for doctors to write prescriptions which chemists dispense, there is no difficulty about repetitions, nor is the control of patients lost.—EDITOR C. & D.]

#### Sandal-wood Oil Capsules.

SIR,—We have read with interest your article in this week's C. & D. on sandal-wood oil capsules. Apart from the question of adulteration which goes on both in the oil and in the capsules, there is also the fact that many capsules are guaranteed as 10 minims when they actually contain only 7 to 8 minims; and sandal perles are also guaranteed to contain 6 minims when they contain only 4, and so on. From the point of view of £ s. d. this is a worse evil than the question of adulteration. Any chemist can verify this for himself by squeezing the contents of a capsule into a minim measure; but, unfortunately, few go to the trouble of doing this, relying upon the guarantee which they get. Also, in many instances, chemists buy their capsules packed in boxes, and practically never see them.

Yours faithfully,

CHEMICUS. (111/25.)

#### Is the Minor Worth While?

SIR,—Would it not be a wise course to encourage all drug-store proprietors to take the Minor? This could be effected by making a long and varied experience balance slightly against the practical work. A wide allowance should be made for really experienced men over forty years old, as many of them have been managers of first-class businesses, and *ipso facto* are almost entitled to conduct a business in scheduled drugs. By so doing the peril looming on the horizon will disappear. The Medical Council, fifty years ago, took the unregistered under its wing, and to-day it is the strongest trade-union in the land. A policy of take all and give nothing can have but one ending, with a waking to a reality little dreamed of.

Yours, etc.,

SERO SPERANDO. (106/38.)

SIR,—I think the Minor is well worth the trouble in the end. The shortage of qualified men has been more keenly felt this year than ever; and if a qualified man is not able to get a good situation, it is because he is of the kind that would be in similar circumstances in any other trade or profession. I know a certain drug-company who cater for such "drugs of the market," and put them under unqualified management, where they have no hope for advancement. They are simply there for the use of their certificates. They have passed the Minor, and then come to a shop where scrubbing-brushes and household goods form the most prominent part of the business. They are sorry they took the job, but stay just because a reference from their employers is not worth much to them. These are the men who lower the dignity of our profession, and whose views on the Minor are that they would have been just as well off if they had not gone in for it.

Yours truly,

TIMBUCTOO. (106/29.)

THE Powers that reign up in Bloomsbury  
Bestride, just as usual, the fence;  
Why on earth can't they see it is high time  
To use just a little plain sense?

"Kindly credit amount of remittance"  
Is the business man's way of address;  
If they'd only adopt business methods,  
There's a lot more would be M.P.S.

It's the fairest of all the proposals,  
Let it then be the "Square" st one too,  
To credit a man with his labours,  
Not make him begin them anew.

Do it now, before worse has befallen,  
And our "craft" to salvation will sail;  
Left undone, 'tis an easy prevision,  
In eternal damnation we'll wail.—(109/70.)



*Disgusted* (103/53) writes stating that he was treated unfairly on presenting himself as a Minor candidate at Edinburgh some four years ago. After being told that he had done well during the morning in practical chemistry, and when he had good hopes of pulling through the first day's work (after several attempts), an inconsiderate examiner, "who would not allow a candidate to secure the drugs he required from the dispensary and also removed the dispensing-scales at a critical period," makes the writer state emphatically that "the Minor is not worth the trouble." "Disgusted" lays claim to three years' training in good schools of pharmacy in the North and two years' experience with the local borough analyst, besides a good all-round shop experience. He puts his failure down to not having "the gift of making examiners think that I know everything like some poor candidates who qualify, and with being too candid." He adds that in January he was up for examination with eighteen average Minor men, and all failed owing to poor lighting of the examination-room.

### Subscribers' Symposium. (Information Solicited or Supplied.)

#### Chemists' Fancy Titles.

The multiplicity of titles assumed by chemists of late years, and depicted on their signs and heralded in the Press, is not understood by the general public—not even by the educated, as the following incident will prove. The other day a clergyman came into my shop to make an inquiry respecting a neighbouring pharmacist, who describes himself as "Major pharmacist, pharmaceutical chemist." The clergyman, when acting as a chaplain to his Majesty's forces, held the rank of major, and he concluded that the proprietor was, like himself, a major in the Army. Now, if a clergyman mistakes the title, what about the man in the street?—*London*. (102/47.)

#### Much Ado About Nothing!

[The influenza this year, says a well-known doctor, is of an unusually mild type.]

A thousand little demons lodged within  
Each weary, aching bone, and pranced around;  
They dragged me here and thither with a din  
That stifled every other sort of sound.

And when, my dreadful symptoms to allay,  
The doctor called, reproachfully he smiled:  
"There's really nothing wrong with you to-day;  
It's influenza, which this year is mild!"

#### Harmless Drugs for Poisons.

Seeing your report of a miner getting tr. rhei co. instead of tr. opi, as wanted, recalls a similar incident which occurred to me quite recently. A man came into my shop on a Saturday night and asked for a pennyworth of oxalic acid. He looked as if he had had some drink, so I asked him the purpose for which he required it. He replied, "Cleaning boot-tops." Upon observing him again, the thought struck me that he might not know what he was about, so I handed him over acid. tart. labelled "Oxalic Acid. Poison." About an hour afterwards a police-constable and inspector walked in and wanted to know if I had sold this, showing the identical packet. I then told them all the details. It appears, when taken to the police-station, no symptoms of poisoning showed themselves, hence their visit to me. The sequel on the Monday morning after was he was brought before the Magistrates and fined 5s., or five days, for being drunk and disorderly; but no mention of the attempted poisoning. This surprised me very much, as I told the police that the man deserved a fright. The man had taken about 2 dr. of the acid supplied. Will not this action leave the way open for him to try again?—*A Leicester Pharmacist*. (105/23.)

### Dispensing Notes.

Most dispensing problems are dealt with in "The Art of Dispensing," but we are always pleased to get fresh ones for solution, and to receive the opinions of readers on the points discussed.

#### White Pills.

SIR,—With regard to Mr. Boyce's inquiry for a substitute for p. sacch. lact. in making up small white pills, I prefer p. pot. bitart. for this purpose where alkaloids are concerned. It masses readily with tragacanth and glycerin. Result, a little whiter, I think.

Yours faithfully,

MORTAR. (109/19.)

SIR,—In reference to letter respecting white pills, I beg to enclose four dozen made by one of my dispensers. "Sacchar. lact." was used, the only addition being pulv. acaciae gr. iij. with syrup. q.s. to mass. The great things in the making of a white pill are a clean pill-machine plentifully sprinkled with French chalk (not starch, as you suggest), and plenty of practice—this being the essential.

Faithfully yours,

A MUCH-MALIGNED STORE PHARMACIST. (110/11.)

[The formula given on the box of beautiful pills (not pure white) is—

Sacchar. lact.	...	...	...	gr. xx.
Pulv. acaciae	...	...	...	gr. iij.
Syrup.	...	...	...	q.s.

Fiat pil. xlviii.

Varnish with sandarac and ether.]

#### Almond Mixture and Castor Oil.

SIR,—Your problem of the almond mixture and castor oil is one with which I have been familiar for many years, and I venture to suggest that the better way to dispense the same is to prepare the powder necessary to make the mistura amygdalae and put it in a dry mortar, and add thereto the oleum ricini and triturate well occasionally for a few minutes, and then add the aqua gradatim, beginning with (at the most) 3ij., and it will result in the production of a very presentable mixture, which will not be objected to by the most fastidious patients.

ABEL SCHOLAR.

#### An Oleate Lotion.

SIR,—I should be glad of your opinion as to the best method of preparing the following prescription:

Glycerin.	...	...	...	3ss.
Zinci oleat.	...	...	...	3x.
Mucilaginis	...	...	...	q.s.
Aq. calcis ad	...	...	...	3viij.

M. Ft. lotio. M.d.u.

Yours truly,

R. C. (103/58.)

[Make the zinc oleate according to the Pharmacopoeia process for its preparation for use in making zinc-oleate ointment. Reduce it to powder, triturate with 30 grains of powdered tragacanth, introduce the glycerin, and rub smooth; then add gradually, with steady stirring, a sufficient quantity of lime-water. When the prescription is compounded in this way a beautiful white homogeneous cream is produced. It may be made thinner or thicker, if so required, by decreasing or increasing the quantity of tragacanth.]

### Legal Queries.

Consult the legal information in "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1910, before writing about your difficulty.

*Quinine* (112/51).—None of the articles which you mention is in the Poisons Schedule.

*Vmo* (111/38).—Russian oil of turpentine sold by itself as a liniment will not be liable to medicine stamp-duty, being an entire drug. It is suitable for use *per se*.

*Raffles* (110/17).—If linseed, liquorice, and chlorodyne contain no scheduled poison they may be sold by anybody. Admixtures containing less than 20 per cent. of chloroform are outside the Schedule.

*Tussis* (58/27).—By inadvertence we gave you on October 29 a formula for a cough-pill containing extracts of hemlock and henbane, both of which would doubtless be regarded as preparations or admixtures containing poison within the meaning of the Pharmacy Acts.

*Aldgate* (112/72) puts the following question: In reference to the use of the possessive pronoun "our," do you consider the words "our own make" on a showcard or label (without any other description or recommendation) make the preparation liable to duty? For instance—

BRONCHIAL MIXTURE, OUR OWN MAKE. 6d. and 1s. Per Bottle.	LIVER PILLS. OUR OWN MAKE. 6d. and 1s. Per Box.
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[We do not consider that the words "our own make" constitute a claim to proprietary rights. Liability is incurred by a claim to exclusive right or title to the making or preparing of the medicine.]

*H. G. S.* (106/53).—In the case of the Apothecaries' Society v. Shepperley the defence was that Shepperley had done nothing which chemists and druggists were not accustomed to do before the Apothecaries Act, 1815, and that he was



exempted from the penalty by Section 28. Baron Pollock, who with a jury heard the case, ruled that the exemption was as regards "buying, preparing, compounding, dispensing, and vending drugs and medicines," and not as regards acting as physicians. The duty of the apothecary, he said, is "to form an opinion on the case, and advise and give medicine and treatment in consequence of that opinion." His Lordship then gave two illustrative cases of where chemists might be asked about medicines by customers, and he said the conversations "would be far from bringing a man within the scope and intention of the Act of Parliament itself, which was passed to prevent people from prescribing on the basis of what they themselves discovered to be possibly the matter with the patient, unless they had received the necessary certificate after passing the examination." Shepperley had been consulted by two persons. One complained of sore throat, difficulty of breathing, tightness in the chest, and sleeplessness. Shepperley looked at his throat and gave him a saline mixture, charging a shilling. In the other case the customer asked for something for pimples, and after some conversation Shepperley gave him a shilling mixture. Application by the plaintiffs for a new trial was refused. The result was considered at the time to be a victory for both parties. The Society of Apothecaries decided not to carry the case further, and it was clearly intimated that they would not authorise any prosecution in a case of pure and simple counter-prescribing. We are surprised that the London Medical Protection Association should challenge the chemist's right to prescribe for simple ailments over the counter.

### Miscellaneous Inquiries.

As we do not in this section repeat information given during the past twelve months, inquirers should refer to the copies mentioned. Back numbers for the past five years can generally be obtained from our office at the published prices.

*H. A. S.* (94/54).—WHITE-ENAMEL PAINT cannot be made profitably on a small scale; but if you desire to undertake the manufacture you will find the process described in the *C. & D.*, October 13, 1906, p. 592.

*Glazier* (97/27).—GLASS-ETCHING.—Fluoric acid is mixed with an inert powder, such as kieselguhr or potassium sulphate, and applied to the glass. The better way is to employ a fluoride, as mentioned in the *C. & D.*, November 12, p. 741.

*B. M. S.* (95/72).—LAWN-DRESSING FOR WORMS.—The powder, which is spread on the grass and afterwards watered, depends upon its property of bringing the worms to the surface to the presence of mustard-bran or essential oil of mustard. The basis can be a mixture of dried blood, cotton-meal, or bone-powder.

*H. J. S.* (88/69).—HONEY AND FLOWERS.—See *C. & D.*, October 29, p. 674.

*A. F. H. S.* (101/60).—TYPEWRITER-INK.—We are not acquainted with the particular kind of ink for copying-apparatus to which you refer. Why not employ a basis of glycerin and water, such as is used in typewriting-ink? The method of making this variety was explained in the *C. & D.*, November 30, 1907, p. 847, or more briefly in the issue for December 4, 1909, p. 880.

*W. J. W.* (98/35).—(1) Formulæ for the flavouring-essences you require can be found in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," which contains other information useful to you in your business. (2) Probably the best training for a young man intended for the wholesale-confectionery business would be to apprentice him to a pharmacist. In this way he would obtain an insight into the various flavouring-agents and essential oils in common use and the methods of exhibiting them. Afterwards the young man could specialise in the chemistry of essential oils and colouring-matters.

*Arnica* (Natal) (95/33) and *P. W.* (94/48).—We recommend you to read the series of articles on modern face-creams which were printed in the *C. & D.*, April 1909.

*H. M. T.* (89/64).—CHEWING-GUM.—See *C. & D.*, April 24, 1909, p. 661.

*R. M. L.* (102/53).—CALCIUM LACTATE is administered as a remedy for chilblains in doses of 20 grains three times daily for adults; children require only one-fourth to one-half the adult dose. The matter was dealt with in the *C. & D.*, January 26, 1907, where further details will be found, such as suggested labels and handbills.

*B. A.* (95/47).—WHITENING FOWLS' FEATHERS.—The creaminess of the feathers, which it is desired to turn into pure white, can be best brought about by the frequent application of hydrogen peroxide after washing with weak soda and

water. Dusting with sulphur after washing is also practised, but the feathers do not stand up so well when artificially treated.

*A. S.* (102/74).—Is the pine "fume" required for inhalation or for fumigating a room?

*W. J. C.* (13/3).—FLY-PAPER MANUFACTURE.—In addition to the information in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," you should consult an article which appeared in the *C. & D.*, July 28, 1906, p. 191.

*C. D. L.* (103/70).—We are not acquainted with the composition of the ointment to which you refer.

*S. H.* (105/50).—PRONUNCIATION OF "ENEMA."—En-ee-ma is now the most common method of pronunciation. En-em-a is considered pedantic, but has some advocates whose scholarship cannot be ignored.

*V. rax* (95/29).—(1) GINGER-WINE ESSENCE.—You do not give us any idea of the recipe you have found insufficiently pungent. As a rule capsicin is combined with gingerin, and the proportion of either or both can be increased. The proportion of proof spirit must be kept below 3 per cent. (2) HALFTONE PROCESS-BLOCKS.—The zinc sensitising-solution generally employed is known as the "fish-glue" or "enamel" process. Verfassers gives the following as typical formulæ:

1.		2.	
Le Page's fish-glue	1 oz.	Albumen, dried	... 15 grs.
Water	... ½ oz.	Water	... ½ oz.
Ammonium bichromate	... 30 grs.	Le Page's fish-glue	½ oz.
Chromic acid	... 12 grs.	Ammonium bichromate	... 20 grs.
Solution of ammonia	... 12 drops	Chromic acid	... 6 grs.
		Solution of ammonia	... 3 drops

*G. C. W.* (90/54) and *Pharmacist* (97/12).—FIREPROOFING FABRICS.—See *C. & D.*, February 5, p. 238.

*W. V. B.* (90/51).—Particulars regarding the subjects for the Preliminary examinations are given in the Educational Number (August 13). The "Guide to Preliminary Examinations," by William Dodds, published by THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST at 2s. 6d., or 2s. 9d. post free, contains further details. The best, and cheapest, way for a boy to prepare for the Preliminary examination is to attend classes specially directed to that end. Several pharmaceutical schools in London and the provinces conduct special classes for College of Preceptors examinations and other suitable Preliminary examinations. Correspondence classes are also of great use.

## Retrospect of Fifty Years Ago.

Reprints from "The Chemist and Druggist," November 15, 1860.

### The Business of a Chemist and Druggist—what Constitutes it?

The reader will perhaps consider this a very simple question, and one easily answered. I think, however, if he will give this subject a moment's consideration, he will find it involves him in a labyrinth from which, perchance, he may not find it quite so easy to extricate himself with due credit. To describe fully and comprehensively the actual business of a chemist and druggist, as now existing, is no trivial matter. If any of us were interrogated by a person wholly unacquainted with the trade, and were asked to briefly but graphically describe our "business," what language should we use, or in what way should we reply, in order that he might form a correct estimate of our true value as members of society? Perchance it will not be altogether a sacrifice of time if we carefully consider the actual position of the chemist and druggist of the present day. The following will be found to represent our condition, as members of society. From twelve to sixteen hours' daily toil, and as if this should not suffice, we have frequently to leave a warm, comfortable bed, perchance to administer to the wants of suffering humanity, by reason of some such summons as this: The night-bell rings; out of bed we turn, down with the window, and shout out, "Holloa, there!" Then comes the summons, "Please, sir, will ye let me hav a small bottle of castor ile?"—some member of the family having been "brought to grief" through some mishap. Probably you may prevail upon your customer to purchase a shilling bottle; very frequently you find they have brought a "two-ounce" or "three-ounce," and the profit from that is your recompense. Again you are summoned thus: "Please, sir, would you be kind enuff to giv me a leetle something for mother, sir? She is so bad, sir, we can hardly keep life in her, sir. Sorry to trouble you, sir, but 'tis no use going for the doctor!"



## Coming Events.

This Section of the "C. & D." is reserved for advance notices of meetings or other events which are sent to the Editor by Wednesday of the week before the meetings, etc., occur.

### Monday, November 28.

*Royal Society of Arts*, John Street, Adelphi, London, W.C., at 8 P.M. Mr. C. R. Darling on "Industrial Pyrometry." Cantor Lecture (II.).

*School of Pharmacy of the Pharmaceutical Society*, Throne Room, Holborn Restaurant, London, W.C., at 8 P.M. Smoking-concert of the Football Club.

### Wednesday, November 30.

*Forfarshire Chemists' Association*, Mather's Hotel, Dundee, at 4 P.M. Mr. W. L. Currie and Mr. D. Gilmour on "The Pharmaceutical Society's Scheme for Co-operation with Local Associations."

*Public Pharmacists' and Dispensers' Association*, St. Bride Institute, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C., at 8 P.M. Short papers by Messrs. W. Moseley, F. E. Bullen, R. Welford, W. Gibson, and G. W. Udale.

*Croydon Pharmacists' Association*. Whist-drive.

*Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association*, 36 York Place, at 9.15 P.M. Miss J. Livingston on "Some Crystalline Forms," and Mr. A. Robbie on "Pharmacy in Oregon."

*Sunderland Pharmaceutical Association*, Grand Hotel, Bridge Street, at 7 P.M. Annual dinner.

*Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association*, Angel Hotel, at 3 P.M. Mr. F. Lea on "Pharmaceutical Training."

### Thursday, December 1.

*Great Yarmouth Pharmaceutical Association*, 156 King Street, at 8 P.M. Monthly-meeting.

*Liverpool Chemists' Association*, Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, at 7.15 P.M. Whist-drive. Tickets (2s. each) from Mr. H. Humphreys Jones, 18 Colquitt Street.

*Nottingham Pharmaceutical Association*, George Hotel, at 8 P.M. Annual dinner. Tickets (4s. 6d. each) from the Hon. Secretaries, Mr. Thos. Freeman, 57 Mansfield Road, and Mr. E. E. H. Turton, 2 Chapel Bar.

*Chemists' Assistants' Association*, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, London, W.C., at 9 P.M. Visit to the London Hospital.

*The Chemical Society*, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W., at 8.30 P.M. The papers to be communicated are: "The Triazo-group. Part XV. Triazoethylene (Vinyl-azoisimide) and the Triazoethyl Halides," by Dr. M. O. Forster and Mr. S. H. Newman; "The Determination of Solubility Coefficients by Aspiration," by Mr. W. J. Jones; "The Auto-reduction of Hydrazines," by Messrs. F. D. Chattaway and M. Aldridge; "The Nitro-derivatives of Dimethyl-*p*-toluidine," by Messrs. G. T. Morgan and A. Clayton.

**EDUCATION OF PHARMACISTS IN ITALY.**—By the regulations of April 1910 the pharmaceutical curriculum in Italy will comprise a four years' course of study in inorganic and organic chemistry, general botany, mineralogy, the chemistry of foodstuffs, materia medica, and pharmacognosy. Practical work is also required in the manufacture of galenicals, and analysis carried out in a chemical pharmaceutical laboratory. The practical training must last for at least one year, and after passing his examinations the pharmacist will be expected to occupy another six months with practical work before obtaining his diploma.

**PHARMACIES IN CONSTANTINOPLE.**—According to a report of the British Consul-General in Stambul there are 400 pharmacies in that district, or about one to every 2,500 inhabitants. The native population, especially the poorer inhabitants, use little medicine, contenting themselves with concoctions of chamomile, lime-flower, linseed, etc., obtainable from every pedlar's booth. The hospitals, moreover, supply large quantities of free medicine, so that the profits of the pharmacist in Constantinople are of a meagre description. Some of the high-class pharmacies in the foreign quarter dispense from eighty to 120 prescriptions per day, but the average is more like ten prescriptions per day and less in other quarters. Despite the difficulty in obtaining assistants the salaries are very low.

## Our American Letter.

From an Ethical Pharmacist.

**Pharmacopœia Committees.**—It will interest British pharmacists to know that fifteen sub-committees have been appointed to deal with various matters connected with the revision of the Pharmacopœia. The subjects dealt with by the sub-committees are as follows: Admissions and deletions; therapeutics and pharmacodynamics; biological products and diagnostic tests; botany and pharmacognosy; general and inorganic chemistry; inorganic chemistry; proximate assays; volatile oils; fluid and solid extracts; aromatic waters, spirits, and liquors; syrups and elixirs; cerates and ointments; miscellaneous galenicals; tables, weights and measures; nomenclature.

**A Pharmacopœial Discussion.**—At a meeting of the Washington Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association held on November 11, the subject under discussion was the Pharmacopœia of the United States. Dr. H. W. Wiley, the President of the U.S.P. Convention, presented a communication, in the course of which he referred to the use of the Pharmacopœia as a standard under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906, and expressed the belief that the interests of the public would have been more effectually safeguarded if no variation from the recognised standard were permitted. Discussing the scope of the Pharmacopœia, he pointed out that although the book is not, strictly speaking, a text-book of therapy, a drug only finds a place in the Pharmacopœia because of its alleged therapeutic effects. He believes, therefore, that the medical members of the Committee of Revision have a right to object to the introduction into the Pharmacopœia of drugs the therapeutic effect of which is unknown or *nil*. Professor Joseph P. Remington, Chairman of the Committee of Revision, pointed out that for many years the Pharmacopœia was a closed book to the medical profession, because its members had been led away from it by the manufacturer of proprietary medicines. The resulting decay of therapeutics has brought about a state of confusion and a tendency to therapeutic nihilism that he considers to be most unfortunate. Professor I. V. S. Stanislaus, Dr. Murray Galt Motter, Dr. Reid Hunt, Dr. Abraham Jacobi, and Dr. W. M. Barton also spoke, and Dr. Wiley summed up the discussion.

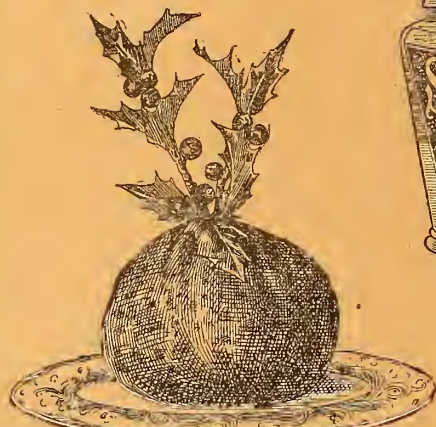
**As Others See Us.**—Mr. F. E. Stewart, who has been on a tour through Great Britain, gave a meeting of the Philadelphia Branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association his impressions of pharmacy in the Old Country. At Leamington he was surprised to find that the hours of business at one of the principal pharmacies was 8.30 A.M. to about 5 P.M., except for night-bell service. At Oxford "the drug-store in the centre of the town seemed to be doing a good business in side-lines of all kinds . . . other stores remotely situated were more professional in appearance." In London Mr. Stewart interviewed one of Boots' managers, who took up the commercial side of pharmacy because of the lack of prospects on the professional side. Drugs are not used so much by doctors as formerly. American proprietaries are largely sold, but not pushed. An "individual proprietor" told Mr. Stewart that he discourages the sale of patent medicines and does not carry a line of his own proprietaries, as his business is confined to dispensing and the sale of toilet-articles. The manager of a "store" in Edinburgh, who was "quite communicative," stated "we are quite busy." He was the manager for an individual owning five stores in Edinburgh, and said, "We have no use for drug-corporations here, and are doing our best to keep them out." At Perth "the drug-stores were of a very similar type to those in the cathedral-towns of England. There was little of that window-display which makes the drug-stores of our American cities so attractive." At Oban "the character of the drug-stores changed completely. The windows were filled with objects to tempt the tourists, and, like all the other stores in the town, each druggist was doing his best to make hay while the sun was shining." At Rothesay Mr. Stewart happened to call at a pharmacy whose proprietor had just returned with seven years' experience of American drug-business. This chemist was able to say that business is better, on the whole, in Great Britain than in the States, and the future is more promising, with the possible exception of London. "The only salvation for pharmacy is in standardisation" was the Rothesay chemist's *bon mot*. A few general and not always correct remarks on pharmacy in Great Britain were given at the end of the paper.

**LEVANT FENNEL-SEED.**—The exports from Salonica during 1909 were valued at 11,000*l.* against 8,000*l.* in 1908 and 2,700*l.* in 1907. The principal destinations were Marseilles, Trieste, and Hamburg.



Humming-  
Bird  
Sachet

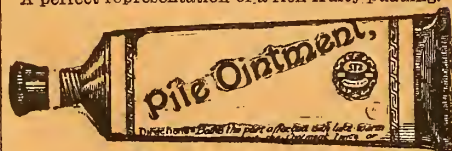
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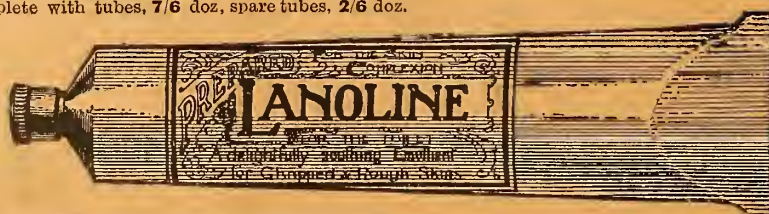
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